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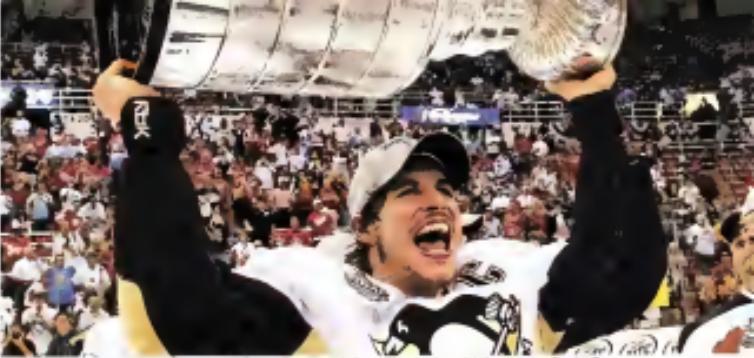
ON DISCERNING TASTE

OYSTERS

BEST ORDERED IN MONTHS, that's when the flavor is at its peak and always best when local, briny-fresh and shared with the table. Sauces and garnishes are a matter of personal preference but are best used sparingly. When accompanied by an icy shot straight up, oysters are a wildly delicious way to satisfy the oyster fix.

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AT 21, NEWSHAKER Sidney Crosby of the Pittsburgh Penguins is the youngest NHL captain to ever win a Stanley Cup

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MS-5-00 received from the FBI concerning case of 21st last March.

The year we learned to live with swine flu

December is a time of trials and tribulations. At Maclean's, we like to mark off our annual Newsmakers issue as one of the more enjoyable features of the Christmas season. This year's edition is our biggest and best yet—41 pages of the most important and interesting people (and animals!) of 2009.

Our inaugural Newsweekers edition in 2005, featured Governor General Michaelle Jean, Rick Hillier, then chief of the defence staff, and hockey superstar Sidney Crosby. In 2006, the Newsweek of the Year was Sir Patrick Stewart representing all Canadians who chose him. The following year was Com Ed Black, disgraced businessman and perennial news magnet. In 2008 U.S. President Barack Obama got the nod for his historic presidential victory.

Todays, Obamas and the war in Afghanistan are still very much with us. And the Gharas-Barrack and Michelle—are among our five Newsmakers of the Year to stay. Joining them are Canadian tech billionaires and hockey耐者 Jim Balsillie, German Chancellor Angela Merkel, and singer Michael Jackson, our last word to a New

The most significant Steven berk that year for most Canadians is probably the H1N1 virus, represented by Mexican youngster Edgar Hernandez, who last March became the first confirmed case of swine flu. The story of the virus, the scientist and the victim he became

After the first wave abated in the spring, most Canadians agreed to ditch the H1N1 flu. In October the vast majority of Canadian sold soldiers they had no interest in getting the vaccine. But by the end of that month, the death of two young athletes, hockey player Evan Franklin and figure skater Vanessa Warmer, had changed everything. Within a few days, Canadians had switched from apathy to panic—every store in the country was sold out of swine influenza in the face of Evan and Vanessa. Government officials were instantly overwhelmed by the unprecedented demand for the vaccine, and chaos ensued. Only recently have vaccine manufacturers devised a series of controls

The H1N1 outbreak moved from alarm to thought to concern during the Canadian flu season in 2009. And while the threat of flu is certainly not over, the worst, thankfully appears to have passed. Which should allow Canadians to enjoy this holiday season. After all.

Finally, another tradition with Newmarket is to recognize the behind the scenes effort that goes into our ever expanding package. In addition to the credited writers, our Newmarket team includes: Diana Syrstad, Sarahann Schubert, Dennis Trebil, Alan Chaleff, Brad Richards, Sean McCluskey, Joe Powis, Richard Reddin and Sophie V.

ON THE WEB: For even more Newsmakers—including the year's top stories—go to www.espn.com.

MACLEAN'S

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WHAT WE BELIEVE

IN YOUR 50+ 2007 story on Canadian beliefs ("What Canadians really believe," See erg), Blair McQuade, theology professor and executive director of the Canadian Catholic Bioethics Institute, is paraphrased as suggesting the poll results "show a shift in belief of reverence for animals than for facets of human life." Perhaps what she really means is "shifts of Catholic belief." Many who favour euthanasia and assisted suicide must research do, in fact, have a deep reverence for human life. They believe a person has the right to live their life with dignity and leave it when that dignity is lost. They believe that assisted suicide research may give back years of life stripped away by physical disability. Peter Scott, Lethbridge, Alta.

IT SEEMS that a few months ago we in Canada's moral compass was somewhat at odds with our decreasing religiosity. Religious leaders that host the panel telling you about the horrible social effects of things like gay marriage seem to be concerned with an actual effect because there isn't any. They are concerned that it overthrows their interpretation of their religious text. I'm happy to see people decide for themselves what they approve of rather than let the clergy tell them what is think based on an ancient scribbling. Jason Cherry, St. John's, Ont.

THE FACT that Canadians have increasing regard for animal rights does not consider the disturbing trend of increasing support for capital punishment. It seems contradictory that Canadians accept some sex relationships but not marital infidelity, or that we are that sex outside of marriage but consume pornography. That the author fails to draw a connection to suggest a belief that Canadians are a slippery slope toward a relativist moral nihilism in which nothing is wrong, when what has actually happened is that Canadian morality has changed. For the better. Jonathan Crampton, London, Ont.

I LEAVE AN EMAILED, and if my excuse allowed me to own a car in my own house, I would. But I am not foolish enough to realize the life of a strong mind over the life of a lived one. The vast majority of the mediocre and most conformist among us receive care on the premise they have been treated as animals. Does anyone

truly believe that all of that research should be bashed aside and leave us with less of memory to space in memory? I don't think so. Ben Almira, Calgary

LAMA LOVE

SO SORRY for the Dale Lamas failure because he has not even considered as array of death at the hands of the Chinese junta and "Stop the Genocide" in "World," Nov. 30. The Dale Lamas a non-violent figure, that is courageous and purpose. To sanction violence would be against everything he represents. Through his role, he has brought tools and techniques

Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty seems to rely heavily on the opinion of Dr. Jack Mintz, president of the C.D. Howe Institute from 1999 to 2006, who has said Ontario will realize half a million new jobs in 10 years along with an increase in the average worker's income of at least 4.4 per cent. But Mintz evidently didn't believe that a year ago. In a September 2008 report, he said the GST would "slow growth," and after several years "real wages would go down." One thing is certain: if another eight per cent is added to heating prices, poor people will be choosing between buying food and staying warm. G.R. Lawrence, North Bay, Ont.

LESSONS FROM FORT HOOD

INTERVIEWERS enjoy dredging MacLean's brilliant and very meaningful column regarding the Fort Hood tragedy ("Major Nidal Hasan had an enabler," Sept. 18). Canadians are well served by knowing that MacLean doesn't shy away from discussions on subjects like this, which could have easily perverted the tragedy at Tarnier had it been discussed at the right time. Gordon Vanek, Vancouver

AGREED for Mark Steyn to his honour and straightforward article on political correctness and how it is allowing the evils of Islam to flourish throughout North America. The Fort Hood incident should be another wake-up call to our politicians to stop thinking called political correctness and let our own people stand up and speak up for our country and our cherished way of life. Muslims are speech and freedom of religion for our way of life, not theirs. Zane Wandyana, Whistler, Ont.

ISLAM is one of the world's great religions, and I'm sure there are many Muslims who abhor what is so often done under its banner. But no so-called moderate Muslim and the rest of us have stood up to the horrific forces within the Muslim world when the fate of civilized society. The terrible tragedy of Fort Hood could have been avoided if Has San's fellow psychiatrists had the intestinal fortitude to speak up, confront him and stop him. What will a call before us as Canadians wake up—a gang of cultural thugs like the Toronto 18 bringing down the CN Tower? Herald Shetler, Ottawa

MACLEAN'S
THE NEW
CANADIAN
MORALITY

What we believe almost instantly, the death penalty, euthanasia, abortion, swearing ...

is unimportant and secondary amongst all human beings to the rest of the world. The answer is freedom is not always death and violence. Vivien Stewart, Hamilton

THE HST WILL HURT

THE HST is a tax grab and the citizens of Ontario and B.C. know it. Does Andrew Coyne ("A few bad words for humanitarians," National, Nov. 16) necessities like hydro, gas and water are not subject to consumption and there is no incentive to lower these rates. An eight per cent jump in the price of everything is not the way to stimulate consumer spending or regeneration. The HST is especially painful to senior citizens and others on low or fixed-incomes. William Steele, Oakville, Ont.

CONSUMPTION taxes, by whatever name, put a disproportionate burden on the poor

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CANADIAN ROMANCE

WHEN I READ your article about women and their Harry Rada czars ("Canadian romance girl meets cool," Nov. 10), I got a warm lump up my throat. As early as '84, Mr. Harry Radko and purple romance were the most beautiful thing I owned when I was 13. My mother bought it for me when I passed over to the bookshelves. That was over ten years ago that she embedded my memory. It followed out behind me when I walked. It had purple and dark-blue bottom shapes like gingham curtains. It had a purple and green gladiolus. It was pure romance to me. For a few years after, I would rock back and forth loosely off it and know I was truly one in a million. Thank you for helping me remember.

THE WAR IN AFGHANISTAN

INTERVIEW WITH AFGHANISTAN'S "NIGHT OR LANCELOT": National, Nov. 16) highlighted many of the issues that must be debated by Parliament prior to Canada's planned withdrawal in 2011. We have achieved a lot in Afghanistan. Now it's time to pull out and support Canadian interests in Afghanistan in a role that involves stabilizing, continuing training of the Afghan army and police force, and re-structuring government officials. However, until the Taliban insurgency is under control, we must maintain a combat element to protect our civilian and military workers. I also believe that we should continue to provide elements in our special forces to hunt down and destroy the Taliban insurgents. They were the ones that killed Canadians on 9/11 and they still pose an international threat.

BON APPÉTIT

THANK YOU for the great article about dinner parties ("Gated or otherwise, let's do it," June 16). Forty years ago we were easily married and now married to Calgary. One of the most memorable dinners was an invitation to the home of a co-worker of my husband's. We arrived and the table was beautifully set with lovely china, silver and champagne flutes. There were six of us and dinner was ordered, prepared Don Pennington it was such fun and obviously in an effort that had made with love. It was not the food but the company; it was brilliant.

We welcome readers to submit letters to either *Letters@macmillan.ca* or to Macmillan's little office, One Mayfair Pleasant Road, Toronto, Ontario M1V 2P5. Please supply your name, address and daytime telephone number. Letters should be less than 300 words, and may be edited for clarity, style and content.



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DESPITE SCANDAL AND HORROR SHOW headlined, Channel 4 confidently trumps Quic

The unflappable Jean Charest



PAUL
MARTIN

PAUL WEIS The governing Liberal can win back its seat briefly in Quebec's national assembly before a Wednesday goes unanswered. When I was there last week, Jean Chrétien was the last to arrive, surrounded by the standard mix of aging ladies and factotums conversing, he tells people he would like a fresh mandate.

The PQ, along with the tragicomic remains of the Metro-Dominion-les-Autres (located across the St. Lawrence River), was a public inquiry into the mess in construction. Every editorial in *Couleuvre* seems to feature Charbonneau's name.

"And away you go," his flying wedge chanted on, in English. The door closed behind them. Jean Charest is 75 years old. He has been the premier of Quebec for 6½ years. He was born into his party's majority in the National Assembly in elementary school a year ago this spring, spelling modern Quebec's first major victory government, as he was to have three years earlier before the next election. In provincial politics, he has one more term to go.

so yes, he would try to impress people with his Jeffery, Amis writing, transform himself, in Andrew Doyce's classic phrase "from moon-faced boy to emerged moon-faced boy." Now better wouldn't melt on the image. I'm trying to figure one when Jeanne named me Lazarus Fulsburne. The Matrix.

It's turtles floatin' while Paulina Mariano, third leader of the PQ has sent signs from across town, behind him. He runs slowly, one hand in a pocket, pauses forever before walking. Police and courts can work at cleaning up systems up right away, he said. His government has bills ready to pass, reforming crime financing, rethinking matrimonial property to make concessions. Won't the opposition help pass them later?

A public inquiry will only write one, says Weirly. "But he means it when he says inquire grand tape governments have no right to tell their. Paul Martin and the Conservative are one example. Another is former prime Robert Bourassa, called a terrorist who can testify on corruption 18 years after his term. It started a generation of political stars Guy Chevrette, Brian Mulroney, Lucien Bouchard. Some left the election. Charron has no interest in creating new political stars.

Soon he'll be away, travelling for much of the Chinese legal-aid break. Ernest, Russia, India, Copenhagen, Dallas. "He's lived days of glory like he'd never known them before," one of Chazan's MNAs tells me. "He must know the names of two-thirds of the mayors of Quebec, and many other beneficiaries too." He's already more than a decade from even four or five years ago.

People used to grumble that he was not a Quebecer but that his real name is "John" that he was born by the Diocesan faculty to put Quebec in place. You don't hear much of that anymore. True, he does seem more poised in English than French but he's held enough to show about that, too, to give a plausible answer, the rigid rules of Quebec City now concur with all the French questions come first, and then English questions. He improvises in French, as per his habit, with the benefit of relevant French words.

People also used to say he wanted to back to federal politics. You don't hear that. The MNA who told me Charron is the most consistent politician in Quebec struggled when I asked whether Charron would say "Timis has been closed every door."

He once had something close to a friendship with Stephan Harper. It left him with nobody to fight, and he lost his majority in the 2007 elections. Then Harper went off flat with Duncan's ADQ. "The leadership

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Chinese didn't like that well," the Liberal MP said. "Now provincial and federal governments have a territorialism, and Jean Marc Fournier, who runs in Quebec's campaign has been quite a friend and understander, for Michael Ignatieff."

People don't usually tell themselves it is wrong to cross Canada, and yet he leaves in his wake a surprising number of former allies who might have argued to replace him. Pierre Paradis, Yves St-Pierre, Tom Mulcair, Philippe Couillard, Denis Perrin. No one happened to them, you understand. They just... fell. His remaining supporters are perfectly non-existent.

The recession didn't hit in hard in Quebec as elsewhere. Hydro-Québec is quietly unprofitably in Atlantic Canada. Quebec pushes an active environmental policy so different from Harper's as to be unrecognizable. In his new book, Jacques Parizeau says the blues about how dumbed-down the apparent movement's leaders are. In 1998, Dave Bradenford, a Culver radio host, draped a flag around Charest's shoulders and pleaded with him to save Canada. Maybe that is what saving Canada looks like. ■

ON THE WEB: For more Paul Wells visit his blog at www.canadianscan.ca/politicians

Now that their dinner is really ruined...



ANDREW POTTER

Americans have two great loves: eating and shopping, and their Thanksgiving holiday is the occasion when they enjoy both activities in all their glistening splendour. But while the central concern of most Americans last week was how to avoid getting trampled in the Black Friday stampedes at the mall, a more conscientious group was思考 over the morality of the holiday dinner should the vegetables be organic, or local?

It turns out that if you're actually serious about taste, health benefits, and environmental impact, the correct answer is "no." The debate between organic and local is one of those anomalies high strang culture that swept through the environmental movement from time to time. And like its most sensible predecessor, the paper or plastic coffee cup that raced across supermarket check-

out counters in the late 1980s, this is one of those fights that is a genuine nuclear gamble the only way you can win is by not playing. The fight began up for grabs for a while now. Originally promoted as the range had lost its profit edge, with better taste, health benefits and environmental gains than regular food, organic has turned out to be none of these things. It didn't help the organic crowd that Wal-Mart started selling by the gross to the industry's existing machines of Middle America, but at least no defendable critique ding the idea that an organic tomato or lemon was more nutritious than its commercially grown counterpart.

The bottom fell out of the concern last spring, when a massive study out of Britain concluded there is absolutely no evidence of any such benefit from organically produced food over conventionally produced food.

As a result, the local-food

farmers seemed to be in the ascendancy. The great appeal of local food is its locavore first support for a regional economy with what appears to be a slow environmental impact. After all, it's difficult to imagine that the shared imbalance between the producer and your plate, the less energy consumed through transportation, helping reduce emissions that cause global warming.

But that last point took a serious hit last week with the release of a new three year study showing that for a number of food staples, moving them around in large cargo ships as part of a global supply chain is more energy efficient than locally sourcing those foods. The report focused on the life cycle of salmon production, but the author/recommendations that caught an entire generation of university students to blow off normal political activity in favour of radical environmentalism.

The book has just been released as a new tenth anniversary edition, and as her new introduction makes clear, the intervening decade has only made Ikeda herself more contemptuous of mainstream policies. She blames Barack Obama—a man who is the single most inspiring figure to appear on the left on this continent in five decades—so little more than a conservative self-hat has pulled the wool over the eyes of America's liberal sheep like him? Appropriating the symbols and messages of true radicals while purporting their bona fides with "crazed Republicans?"

This is nothing but the old Cheney/Waderka ploy about the issue being the measure of the credibility dressed up in liberal wacky cynicism. Who cares? Why get involved at all? You'll just end up with a government that's not fit for purpose.

The left can't shake its obsession with paternalism in consumerism. As a result, the real thing the left is consuming is itself. ■

less exercise in pseudo-ethical environmentalism appears to have come to an end.

At this point, the progressives might feel inclined to upend back and undermine the whole voice-with-your-wallet model that environmentalism as never more than a step of fair trade coffee away. The planet (and the poor) should be last. The desire to moralize our consumption is one of the most exaggerated traits of our culture, underwritten by a year of extremely unproductive attitudes.

The first is the unashamedly anthropocentric notion that my issue must not only be good, but also good. It assumes that what makes me happy must necessarily do right by the environment, and what is spiritually satisfying must also be morally praiseworthy. Except we have no right to make this assumption, and by all indications, there is no connection still between the two.

Laparedre on top of this is a more serious problem, which is that the increasingly strident desire to politicize what appears on our dinner plate reflects a correspondingly facile notion on the left in taking policy and political action seriously. This is, in large part, the unfortunate legacy of Michael Pollan's book *Natural History*, the sentimentalization narrative that taught an entire generation of university students to blow off normal political activity in favour of radical environmentalism.

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The left can't shake its obsession with paternalism in consumerism. As a result, the real thing the left is consuming is itself. ■

ON THE WEB: For more Andrew Potter visit his blog at www.canadianscan.ca/andrewpotter

CAPITAL DIARY

MITCH RAPHAEL ON THE GREAT SAUSAGE CAPER AND A PRESENT FOR PARLIAMENTARY GEEKS

AFTER ALL THAT, HE'S NOT SHARING

Karen Potter, director of parliamentary liaison in government House leader Jay Hill's office, desperately needed to get her hands on some literary presents. They're made of blurbies, Atala, 75 km east of Edmonton. She wanted to surprise her father, Dale Potter, a former Edmonton city councillor, who, at 72 years young, helped the town win its Grey Cup. Her father, now living in Ottawa, hadn't had a sausage since 1965 and was craving them. She thought it would be the ideal birthday present and asked Labour Minister Rosa Ambrose, who's from Athabasca, for help. Ambrose wasn't going to be in Edmonton but agreed to do what she could. She tried to have the sausages sent by mail, but the shop said it couldn't do that. Could they freeze the sausages, Ambrose asked, and she would have someone pack them up and fly them to Ottawa. For that, she was told, she would need special permission from the manager. Strangely, the manager's manager said that if she got it, it will affect the taste. She got the special permission, but then she needed to find someone to bring the sausages back. She turned to her fellow Edmonton MP colleague, Mike Lake. Lake wasn't sure he had room in his freezer to store them but MP Brian Topp brought the sausages home. Ambrose's assistant's husband packed up the sausages, gave them to his wife, who was about to bring them to Rathgeber's office. The MP then went to the Edmonton airport, where they caught the attention of the security people when they went through the scanners. "We'll have to look at your luggage," he yelled with a pat. "What did you get this?" That was rapidly followed by: "I'm not sharing this with anyone."



KAREN POTTER, Karen Potter, Brian Topp and the *Edmonton Journal* (top); Brian Topp; Karen Potter, Brian Topp, the second edition of *House of Commons Procedure and Practice*; (bottom) Mike Lake

feels some places are holding room to run at the last minute. But a few B.C. MPs sold Capital Disney they'll have to give up. Considerator of Alice Wang has one room that's been sold. NDP MP Lloyd Dumas' Labrador cabin has an extra one room for Jeannine Dionne, daughter of Sophie Dion, but still has a room free and an apartment in the house she just renovated. Liberal Ujjal Dosanjh can't help, though his house is being gutted and redone for the Olympics.

HOT HILL XMAS GIFT For parliamentary procedure geeks, "It's the Sport Illustrated version edition," quipped Liberal whip Roger Coller at the launch of the second edition of *House of Commons Procedure and Practice*. New highlights include a section on sexism: "The last time [a speaker] used a性别, they rode horses," says Arabella Weisz, the House clerk who edited the 1,400-page-plus book. She also says there is a revised section on Speakers dealing with the topic, which Peter MacNeil has done almost nothing. Each MP received two copies of the book, which costs \$198.95 at the parliamentary gift shop, just in time for Christmas.

THE NEXT GUY

Marty Simson, president of Great Tapital Investors, kicked off the organization's launch of "100 Years of the tour" in the Hill. One powerful Conservative insider told Capital Diary that Simson, a former ambassador and chairperson of the Arctic, would be an ideal choice as governor general since Michelle Jean is unlikely in her final year of office. ■

ON THE WEB: For more Andrew Potter visit his blog at www.canadianscan.ca/andrewpotter

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FEDERAL JUSTICE MINISTER Rob Nicholson wants to toughen drunk driving laws by instituting random roadside breathalyzers. Details

CURBING DRUNK DRIVERS IS HARDER THAN YOU THINK

Canada is considering tougher and broader laws. Will they work?

BY ANDREW GATSBY • There aren't any milestones Mr. Roger Walsh, the 37-year-old Quebecer sentenced to life in prison this September for running over and killing wheelchair-bound Anne Khodaverdian in 2008—has 16th respondent-drinking conviction Andrew Anthony Charles, a 25-year-old from Vancouver Island, recently handed down years before an alcohol-soaked April 2005 crash that took the lives of his girlfriend, Deanna Joseph, 20, and cousin, Glyn Charles Jr., 23. What does Walsh, a 49-year-old drunk from Columbus, Ohio, who, after his fall, got four years, see for each of the elderly women he killed—Marion Dawson, Jean Ripley, Yvonne Morris and Berneice Phillips—when he pleads his innocent case back onto their cots as they return home? In the name of public safety, the June report of the all-party House of Commons justice committee, Nicholson and his team want to give police broad new powers to conduct random roadside breath tests. (As it stands now, if a vehicle's driver has a .08% blood-alcohol level or more, they're considered impaired.)

The law of offenders, and their innocent victims, goes on. Anyways with doubts about the odds, asked to board "Sober Buses," and

drunk driving is still a problem in Canada: most notably in the Prairie provinces where the rates of all types of crime have dropped to 30 per year, and our roads are safer than ever, the seemingly lethal combination of alcohol and automobile remains a stubborn phenomenon. In 2006 (the most recent statistics available), 1,907 Canadians were killed in crashes involving a drinking driver. Those numbers were up 10 per cent.

But I wonder what Federal Justice Minister Rob Nicholson has really announced his intention to do again: toughen the country's imperial driving laws. Endoring the June report of the all-party House of Commons justice committee, Nicholson and his team want to give police broad new powers to conduct random roadside breath tests. (As it stands now, if a vehicle's driver has a .08% blood-alcohol level or more, they're considered impaired.)

Endorsement is one thing; action is another. The committee's report says that, as of now, there are no laws in Canada that allow police to conduct roadside breath tests. The last time such a law was introduced in Canada was 1921. That's a fail to say the least: the notion of drunk driving as a serious crime didn't really take hold until December 1966, with the introduction of a law that prohibited drivers from having more than 50 mg of alcohol per 100 millilitres of blood, and gave the police the power to conduct breathalyzers tests. The 50 mg per cent blood alcohol concentration (BAC)

law every year. It's a change that would put Canada, already home to some of the world's most stringent measures for impaired driving, at the forefront of a global era.

But there's a catch. Despite almost three decades of experience, there's no clear scientific proof that allowing police to arbitrarily detain and test drivers is any more effective in reducing drunk-driving crashes than the standard checkpoints. In fact, there's a growing body of evidence—clogged courts, failing charge stats, overburdened cops—that our nation's impulse to crack down on those who get behind the wheel when loaded may have become part of the problem. Is it time for a new little blitz?

It's been illegal to have "care or control" of alcohol since 1921. But it's not to say that the notion of drunk driving as a serious crime didn't really take hold until December 1966, with the introduction of a law that prohibited drivers from having more than 50 mg of alcohol per 100 millilitres of blood, and gave the police the power to conduct breathalyzers tests. The 50 mg per cent blood alcohol concentration (BAC)

INVICTUS

has always been an imperfect measure. Levels of impairment at that level are different from person to person, but the charts suggest it takes a 380-lb. load fear to fire drugs over a two-hour period to hit that level, and two to three drinks for a 125-lb. woman. Licensing as a margin for error, police in Canada generally won't lay an impaired driving charge until a person blows 0.10 per cent.

If you are caught for guard driving, the consequences can be severe. A first offence for blowing over the limit can result in a minimum \$10,000 fine, and an immediate one-year license suspension (although some provinces offer the penalty to drive a month); if the offender agrees to have their vehicle's ignition system fitted with a blood-and-alcohol monitor, the associated costs can also be imposed, and the



INDEFENDABLE Roger Williams (D-RI), seen here in his office holding a picture of daughter Anne, Wilson's victim Andrew Anthony Charles

penalty for subsequent convictions ranges between 10 days and five years. Should you cause bodily harm because of your impairment, the maximum prison term is 10 years. If you kill, it is life sentence.

And the net of driving anywhere near the legal limit has also become costly. Every province, except Quebec and Alberta, now hand down one-day吊销驾驶执照suspensions, ranging from 34 hours to 90 days, and drivers who register at 91 per cent and above 104 per cent in B.C. face a week's. Such "administrative" suspensions don't lead to a criminal record, but they often cause minor grievances to skyrocket.

Much of the testimony before the Congress just cited continues this pattern of a push to replace those methods of supervision with criminal charges, lowering the legal BAC threshold to 0.0 percent. Proportionate arguments that drivers with such low blood alcohol levels are already functionally impaired, and that such a move would result in a "significant reduction" in deaths and injuries. But the anti-motoring majority ignores repeated calls, even a "lack of consensus among experts" as to whether a lower BAC would really make the roads safer. (An FBI study found that 81.5 percent of fatal alcohol-related crashes occur

Canada have BACs over 0.08 per cent, and that most in this group were driving with at least double the legal limit.)

actually failed in Canada from one in every 270 licensed drivers in Canada in 1997 to just one in every 169 licensed drivers in 2005. (In comparison, U.S. law enforcement charged one in every 139 drivers with driving while impaired in 2006.) Police scientists argue the new precision is born out of three contributions and frustrations: a recent national survey of police found that it takes officers an average of 3.1 hours to process a basic impaired charge, and 4.4 more hours if fit goes to trial; roadside breathmeters are faster, and much less likely to be contested.

The debate, then, is over how we should fix the system. In their bill to ban the drunk-driving laws in 2008, the federal Congressmen moved to help out the stopped drivers by banning the use of evidence that defined driving

up \$10,000 in legal bills."

Indeed, one of the things that seemed to heavily influence the committee's decision was a national survey of Crown attorneys and defense lawyers conducted by Ottawa's Traffic Injury Research Foundation (TIRF) that year. At 50,000, Canadian courts process more than 50,000 impaired drivers a year. Faring such trials and penalties, more than 60 percent of accused impaired guilty and go to jail. Even the most lenient judges take less than five hours of court time—and at least that much pre-hearing preparation—to resolve. And the conviction rate in trial is reported to be just 52 percent. (The overall conviction rate, including guilty pleas and pretrial bargains, is 78 percent, down from a figure of 86 percent two decades ago.) Prosecutors and defense lawyers estimated that lowering the BAC cutoff would result in 75,000 to 100,000 more impaired drivers every year, potentially overwhelming

Everyone seems to agree that the current system isn't working that well. "We have de facto discrimination in impaired driving," says MADD's Soekono. "It's not enforcing the law, it's too complex. The police are very reluctant to lay charges." To back up their claim, the organization raised but has

an introduce. (Favoured tactic like the “two-tier” defence, where witnesses were called to testify that a driver really had a couple of beers, throwing the accuracy of the breathalyser into question, have been outlawed.)

But the government’s plan to move to a random breath test—already in development for those who had passed it a lower BAC limit—might end up opening up vast new avenues for legal chaffing.

Even in recommending BRT, the justice committee acknowledged that pulling people over and holding them for breathal tests without any grounds for suspicion, clearly violates Sections 9 and 9 of the Charter of Rights, which prohibit against unreasonable search and seizures and arbitrary detention. All rights in Canada are subject to "reasonable limitations" under section 1 of the Charter, but the Supreme Court will ultimately have to make a call on whether BRT fits that definition.

"There are areas of concern to us," says Markdale Des Rosiers, general counsel of the Canadian Civil Liberties Association. "When we don't have reasonable and probable cause, we open the door to abuse." And if Canada takes heed toward RST, it might not be a bad idea to demand some more accountability from those forms that will be available this



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broad new power, the top 1000 offenders per year out of Canada's 30 million subjects to plenty of arbitrary search-and-detection at security checkpoints in airports, courthouses and even the House of Commons.)

But the bigger question might be whether random breath tests are really worth the fight. The Justice Committee pointed to studies suggesting that the change from standard checkpoints to RBT significantly reduced fatalities in Ireland (21 per cent) and in New South Wales, Australia (a 36 per cent drop in fatal injured drivers with BACs over 0.05 per cent). However, such clear-cut examples of RBT's superiority are fairly hard to come by. Injured fatalities and accidents do have a tendency to dip dramatically after the introduction of random stops, but that effect rarely



FURTHER REDUCING DRUNK DRIVING WILL TAKE CREATIVITY

lasts, and may well be a function of the publicity surrounding the change, rather than the checkpoints themselves.

The gold-standard study of RBT, a 2001 review of the scientific literature by the U.S. Centres for Disease Control, which examined 21 papers appearing from the early 1980s to that last year, found "no evidence that their effectiveness for reducing alcohol-related crashes diffused" from regular checkpoints. In 2009, another meta-analysis looking at the effect of both types of checkpoints reached a similar conclusion. "It had been assumed that checkpoints are more effective when BAC cuts are taken from all drivers who are pulled over," wrote the Norwegian researchers. "The subgroup analysis shows it seems to confirm this assumption."

And while both RBT and standard checkpoints reduce alcohol-related crashes by about 10 per cent, neither type seems to have much of an effect in reducing the nonalcoholic accidents. The large drug problems in Australia following the switch to RBT may have been a function of culture that initially had more drunk drivers, says the meta-analysis (Drug- or alcohol-free Aussies drivers involved in fatal crashes in 1981 were over the limit, versus 36 per cent in the U.K., and 31 per

cent in the U.S.). Or perhaps it has something to do with the "highly visible" way police in Australia—ravaging, house bases, and unarmed enforcement like that like snuffing out 40 per cent or more of the population every year—go about their business. Regardless, this decades of research seem in point to the same conclusion: sobriety checkpoints aren't particularly good at catching drunk drivers, but they can be effective at dissuading a some drinkers from getting behind the wheel in the first place.

Which brings us to the question of who is it that still drives drunk in this age of severe penalties and hyper-awareness? The 2008 Road Safety Monitor, an annual monitoring and driving survey produced by Denver's TRIP, found 88 per cent of Canadians professed to

drunk-not-checks (why they don't mandate more charges at random checkpoints remains a mystery). Luck also comes in to play: Canada's Department of Justice places your chances of being arrested while drunk behind the wheel at somewhere between one in 500 and one in 2,000.

The truth is that for all the effort we've put into stopping impaired driving, we don't actually know much about those who engage in the behaviour. Thomas Nsabimana, a social scientist at the University of Buffalo who is leading a study of drunk drivers for the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, says they fall into many subgroups: young people who don't perceive their limits; chronic older offenders; women with a history of abuse; and the cross-addicted. His research suggests this broad, get-tough solutions are unlikely to work, tailored programs are better. The most difficult groups to reach, says Nsabimana, although not unreachable, are chronic drivers: strictly fit the definition of a severely dependent alcoholic, if only by virtue that they live together enough to keep a car on the road.

One promising strategy in recent years has been the emergence of special courts for drunk drivers. Rather than sentencing repeat offenders to jail, the courts divert them to an intensive alcohol treatment program, subjecting them to random testing, and weekly progress appearances before a judge. There are now more than 300 such courts in the U.S. They not only save money—it costs about U.S. \$3.50 a day to monitor someone on probation, versus 27 a day to keep them in jail—but seem to have significantly reduced recidivism as well.

Canada doesn't yet seem ready to consider such a move. Nor do the various levels of government seem that eager to embrace another proven method, the ignition interlock (championed by pretty much all the experts and also recommended in the justice committee report), which is said to reduce recidivism by 50 to 90 per cent. There are more wins in toughening legislation than in creating national统一 standards for such devices, it seems.

The reality is that further reducing impaired driving is going to take a lot more creativity than we have so far demonstrated. In 1985, there were 16.5 million licensed drivers in Canada, and 4,283 traffic fatalities of all kinds. By 2006, there were 22 million drivers, and just 1,048 fatalities. The roads are drier, steadily safer, yet impaired driving remains the number one criminal cause of death in the country, killing hundreds more than homicide. Progress is relative. The pain of living is level to something as selfish as legally impaired drivers they pull over at 3:30

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Where to draw the line on child poverty



ANDREW COYNE
Introducing the first measure in Parliament to combat the government of Canada to abolish child poverty by the year 2000, NDP leader Ed Broadbent outlined a "decency-based" vision of Canada. "Being a poor kid means having to live on food banks and soup-kitchen lunches. Mr. Speaker, to be a poor kid means trying to raise or write or think in an empty stomach... Our future as a nation children are wasting away." The motion passed, unanimously.

That was on Nov. 24, 1989. Twenty years later, writing in the *Globe and Mail*, broadbent looks back on his achievement. "Canada's level of poverty is virtually unchanged.... After two decades, the child-poverty rate has dropped a mere two percentage points, to 9.5 percent. Why do more than 600,000 Canadian kids wake up hungry and go to school trying to read, write and do arithmetic sound so wrong?"

The answer is they don't. More than 600,000 Canadian kids are not waking up hungry today; anymore than one-quarter of Canadian children were "nourishing away" 20 years ago. What broadbent entirely misses from his rhetoric is a state of absolute privation—hunger, an empty stomach, walking empty. But the numbers he cites are all based on relative measures that is, how many children were less well off than other children.

That's popping one quarter fewer from 1989 was the number of children living in families with less than one-half the median income before tax. The somewhat more modest 4.5 per cent figure for 2000, down from 11.5 per cent in 1989, was based on yet another measure, Statistics Canada's Low Income Cut-off (LICO). LICO doesn't measure poverty; it doesn't pretend to. Indeed, the agency takes every opportunity to stress explicitly that LICO is not a poverty line, and shouldn't be used much.

The problem is it's hard to say what LICO does measure. It's clear that one-half the

median

is a relative measure, and it's clear what it means. But LICO? Here's how Broadbent explains it: First, they figure out how much a family on average spends monthly on certain essentials—like food, shelter, clothing. Then they take that proportion for 2000 (it was 41 per cent) and add 20 points to it. (Why 20 points? Why not?) Finally, they take the level of income at which most households would be spending 41 per cent of their income on essentials, if spent in exactly the same way family and alone; that family is said to be living on low income. How much is that? In 2000, it averages from \$11,745 for an individual living

alone to \$24,000 for a family of four. The inequality that exists here is not between rich and poor—but much the top-quintile earns versus how much the bottom quintile does—but between the poor and the middle class. A poor family is not disadvantaged because it cannot afford a yacht, but because it cannot aspire even to the sorts of everyday things that middle families take for granted.

Further, the line between absolute and relative poverty is more clearly drawn in all that. Our notion of what is absolute privation will change over time, as less indispensable notions of decency. Similarly, relative definitions have an element of the subjective to them: will we still define one-half the median as "low income" when the median is a middle-class income?

So there would be value in collecting data using both criteria, relative and absolute. We've got a useful relative measure: one-half the median, mostly used in other countries. And we've got the basis for a good absolute yardstick in the "basic needs" index, proposed by professor Christopher Stirling for the Fraser Institute, and in the Market Basket Measure, prominent welfare department use to set social assistance rates.

Why do we need an absolute measure of poverty? Not, in other words, so we can define poverty out of existence, but so we can tell whether we're making any progress against it. What's important here is the level of any such measure—perhaps Stirling's measurement is too stingy—but whether it allows us to make meaningful comparisons over time, and between countries. As it happens, the stats have a rather bizarre Stirling calculates the level of child poverty has risen fifteenfold over the last few decades to roughly five per cent—so you would expect, given the efforts of governments to address it through programs like the Canada Child Tax Benefit and associated supplements. Moreover, we score quite high on the international standings, according the Luxembourg Income Study—and far behind the Swedes and the Norwegians, though we perform rather less well on absolute measures.

Let's publish both kinds of data, then, absolute and relative, and let's see what we can learn. But it's long past time we retired LICO. ■

ON THE WEB: For more, Andrew Coyne visit his blog at www.macleans.ca/andrewcoyne



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be reformed and reneged on his promise?

Since the trial began, Chum Mey has read all Duch's floor across the courtroom. May 19, more than a dozen survivors of S-21, whose perhaps stories had been interrogated ripped off their chairs and applied electric shocks to his endurance. Like other accusers, he was forced to confess to being a spy. I spoke with

survivors pleased to see us watching.

For the past two years, Duch has been confined to the ECCC's detention centre, with little to do besides study the documents related to his case. "He knows the file better than anyone else," the prosecutor team admitted to me. "His ability to collate documents from memory is amazing." Duch clearly takes pleasure from the file. If a witness or lawyer makes a mistake, Duch will correct it or even hit dry snot from his nose. While he takes responsibility for the overall cruelty of S-21, he strongly challenges witnesses who allege he carried personal vendettas against them or, now present at their execution.

"Duch lives in a contradiction," says Judy Ledgerwood, an anthropologist at Northern Illinois University.

IF THERE ARE MANY LIKE DUCH ALIVE IN CAMBODIA TODAY, WHO KILLED THOUSANDS, CAN THEY TOO BE REFORMED?

From the grounds of S-21, which has become the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum, we walked through the outer block buildings where he was once attacked. May is sensible and shifty, but without the people here he may be like lost headland, vanishing Khmer Rouge rule, and he recounts his words with an air of personal bemusement. How could this have happened?

May was initially impressed by Duch's apologies. But after months spent listening to the defendant, he has become suspicious. He warns Duch's public remorse is crafted to win a lighter sentence. "Duch is very cunning," May says, "how long can you?" He continues in the big picture, but then denies what he has done himself.

Like May, I have spent days watching Duch in court, searching for clues. At 67, Duch is a squat, unassuming looking man with neatly groomed side and pepper hair and crusty handworn dress sense. He responds politely to questions from judges, who peer down at him over their laptop computers. Sometimes he glances through the glass wall that separates the courtroom from the viewing gallery where hundreds of Cambodians sit, along with a smattering of foreign observers. He



CHUM MEY, a survivor of S-21 prison, stands in his former cell, walls of victims' skulls in Phnom Penh's village.

says, "I think he feels some genuine remorse, but he also wants the story to be told so well that it doesn't make him look so bad." So do that he needs to make some changes."

Ledgerwood once spent six months working in the S-21 archives, where she came to recognize Duch's handwriting. "He was not a copy in the machine," she argues. "He read three and gave the orders—not to have to

or 15 people killed, but thousands."

To help make sense of the puzzle that is Duch, judges ordered an assessment by two psychological experts. They diagnosed him as free of psychiatric illness, and instead described an ideologue who puts the needs of individual lives before the needs of individual lives. He was nervous and had trouble working, proud of doing a good job, with a capacity for those who suffered. While he endured the execution of thousands he found time to get married, father two children, and receive visits from his parents.

Despite this seeming portion of Duch as commander-in-chief, the psychologists claim Duch today is a changed person. He has more empathy for victims. On several occasions he has wept publicly. The experts described his mental life as a battlefield where different elements, including Skinner Rouge teachings, continue to fight for control. That war isn't over. Nevertheless, they have concluded Duch could be reformed and even worthy.

Any story of Duch's transformation has to include his conversion to Christianity in 1996, when he was living under a pseudonym in a remote village. (He was discovered in 1999 and put in military jail.) Duch found in Christianity a powerful religion—it had defeated Communism in countries like Poland—that offered him a new direction and a new community. Equally importantly, it offered the possibility of divine forgiveness for his sins. In this deeply Buddhist country, many Christians look at this conversion with great suspicion. "In Buddhism you pay the price for what you've done," explains professor Ledgerwood. "According to Buddhism, Duch is stuck. He's going to languish for an eternity, or at least for many life cycles, in a lower level of hell somewhere."

The judges at the ECCC aren't able to hand out that kind of sentence. They can, however, decide whether or not Duch will spend the rest of his life in prison. The prosecution has asked that he get 40 years. The defense team is light on punishment, as it has co-operated, pleaded guilty, and already been in jail for 10 years. It's still possible that one day Duch could walk free. In deciding whether or not he should, judges face the question that challenges Christians who watch the trial: Can a man like Duch change? And can my amount of penance win a reprieve for someone who showed no mercy to his victims in the past? ■



NORWAY: SNIFFING FOR SUSPECTS

Every year, citizens of the village of Ilderseng collaborate. One comes by Christmas when they call "The world's largest and greatest gingerbread competition." But the British name early this year. Residents were shocked to find the village of 800-cooked houses destroyed, covered in fire retardant after trees had gone. Police inspector Erik Sverresen hopes the culprits will be easy to nab. "The people who did this must be full of gingerbread dust. They will smell a long way."

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RUSSIA'S FAUX REFORMIST

Medvedev preaches openness, but he has made little progress

BY SAMMY MAGDONIADIS • The first sentence signs off a split sentence that Kremlin sources wrote ago, when President Dmitry Medvedev fired his key aide, Mikhail Leon. The media adviser and former minister became the most senior person to exit from the administration, leaving enough loose-based speculation that the president may be breaching away from his mentor and predecessor, prime minister and future president Vladimir Putin, with whom Leon was closely linked.

The sacking of a Kremlin insider wouldn't, on its own, have raised eyebrows. Lately, however, Medvedev has been going out of his way to distance himself from the harder elements of the Putin era: its authoritarian politics, nationalism, and "seriously distorted" perception of human rights. He has

bemoaned the "backwardness" of the governing party, United Russia, the country's "sharply low" competitiveness, and recent corruption (curiously, an estimated one-third of Russian gross domestic product goes to paying bribes). This fall, Medvedev, who is nearing the halfway point of his term, turned these themes into "Forward, that is!", a manifesto that reads like a platform for a liberal reformer, leading to widespread concern about Medvedev's moderation, the Obama of Russia.

In a commanding manner—"read you look like the tiers," says London-based Russia watcher Edward Lucas, author of *The New Cold War Under Medvedev*, media has not become any freer, free speech has been increasingly bad, and the number of arrests and attacks on journalists and foreign NGOs has actually increased. Indeed,



IN AN EDITORIAL LAST week, "we so far from reality as to sound pretentious."

"Few in Russia take Medvedev seriously, or believe he has the reform or the resources to modernize," says Luke Sharpless, the Moscow author of *Putin's Russia: A "general with no army"*, concerns Oleg Kryvonenko, a top expert on Russia's political elite, noting that 85 per cent of key Kremlin posts are still held by Putin allies. This includes the police, the military, and the FSB, the secret police, where power struggles are traditionally decided

CRTICISMS SAY Medvedev (left) is still a monarchist, and Putin is pulling the strings

Indeed, some continue to suggest that Putin, measured to what the presidential poll once again since stepping down in 2008 due to constitutional constraints, is pulling the strings, allowing Medvedev his toothless monologue to raise innovative topics, adopt his own laws, even sack a Kremlin insider—"an orchestrated good cop/bad cop routine," says former Clinton White House adviser on Russia Mark Melville. This keeps the public guessing, and

leads to the opposition of the balance, he adds. It has also given Medvedev a window to discuss the economic crisis, and Russian fault in the country's declining level of competitiveness, and in "outfitting" dependence on raw materials. The economic downturn has Russia further than almost anywhere else, says Steven Greene, an expert at the Moscow Carnegie Center. "Even in Russia, it would be unwise to ignore this reality," he says.

The "influence" on Medvedev's democratic bona fides, says Sharpless, comes with the question whether or not he pursued with a success trial for Mikhail Khodorkovsky, the founder of Yukos oil company. The 2003 arrest of Khodorkovsky, once Russia's richest man, on charges of tax evasion and fraud, ended with the dissolution of Yukos (which, after being pushed into bankruptcy, was swallowed by the state-owned oil company, Rosneft—the first in a series of re-nationalizations of Russia's largest companies). Khodorkovsky, a Putin rival who dared challenge the president's authority, earned an eight-year prison sentence; it ends in 2013, one year ahead of Russia's next presidential election.

For Medvedev, during Khodorkovsky, recently imprisoned in a Siberian work camp, could have signalled the fundamental philosophical and political shift he says he is committed to making. It could also have made

Medvedev a force within Russia, earned him praise from the West, and removed the Yukos stain that haunts over the Kremlin to this day, says Lucas. To do that, however, he would have had to override Putin, and all those who benefited from the dismantling of Yukos. In the end, as experts, the decision was likely more Khodorkovsky's absurd, second trial an outrage of hubris, now entering its 10th roundabout chapter of political repression designed to keep Khodorkovsky in jail "until he retires," says Washington-based expert Martha Glantz, senior associate with the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

To some, Medvedev's recent speeches have evoked memories of journalists and glaziers, war, and comparisons to modernizer and reformer Mikhail Gorbachev. Gorbačev, with a single act, the 1991 release of Andrei Sakharov—the Soviet Union's most famous political dissident—signalled radical change that his liberalization was real. Sakharov later explained, not mere "dissent" but "seizure, trial and sentence." In Medvedev's case, the new trial for Khodorkovsky, who has said he does not understand the charges against him and could face 22 more years in prison, epitomizes the "legal nihilism" the president is vowed to combat and sends the opposite signal entirely. ■

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Please see preceding pages of the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympic Tech Report



In an effort to lure back gain-savvy savers after a bad year, financial institutions are pushing a host of new retirement savings programs.

THE PRICE OF SECURITY

Behind many savings plans lurk steep costs. Who can you trust?

BY CHRISS BERGERON • Michael Papowich, a charlatan, suffered a massive heart attack age 52. His doctor, not surprisingly, told him that going back to work was a bad idea. Faced with the sudden prospect of losing most of his pension savings—\$1.5 million—Papowich sold his dental practice in Thetfordville, Ont., and began searching for a way to fund his unexpectedly long retirement.

Like many Canadians, he was attracted to the reliable monthly income stream that comes with investing in income trusts (public corporations, in this case) pay out most of their profits to investors. But he was drawn to the high-income strategy star David and in 2008 that it would begin funding the popular investment vehicles in four years, citing concerns about a loss of revenue. The value of Papowich's holdings plummeted overnight.

Now, three years and one market crash later, he is one of millions of Canadians trying to recoup their retirement portfolios. While some financial advisers are no doubt telling clients it's a good time to get back into the stock market, you can't blame people for being a little gun-shy. Is playing it safe in an era of historically low interest rates just a magic bullet? Other "There are very few good options out there," Papowich says. "Interest rates aren't going to come back for a long time so you can't count on that." Corporate investments are risky because you don't know where you're going to go with those strings.

Financial institutions have taken notice of the dilemma and have rushed to develop a host of so-called "safe" investment products peppered with buzzwords like "protection," "guaranteed" and "secure," but that still promise equity-like returns. Not surprisingly, though, the risk reduction comes at a price—often a steep one.

It's a confusing landscape littered with fine print and jargon, leaving more homeowners

all at a loss when it comes to do-it-yourself investing strategy is becoming more important than ever. The days when Canadians could depend on a company pension for a comfortable retirement are rapidly dying away. "The demographics of our country, in terms of our aging population, and the status of our pension plan means [Canadians] have to save and invest for themselves," says Alexander Iwaniuk, the director of the Canadian Retirement & Income Investors' Association. "But as they come to live on their savings, they will discover they don't have enough to live on."

That is, of course, unless they manage to invest wisely, something that these days is often easier said than done.

Investor advocacy groups suggest that nearly a third of Canadians planning for retirement are now investing more cautiously, up from just 10 per cent five years ago. The trend doesn't surprise Tom Hanna, president of the Investor Education Fund, a non-profit group established nearly a decade ago by the Ontario Securities Commission. Hanna says there has been a welcome increase in the number of people seeking

ung information about guaranteed investment certificates, or GICs, on the growth of wealth.

With caution the safe buzzword, financial institutions have supplied with an increasingly wide array of products that promise investors exposure to markets plus safety guarantees so they won't lose their principal. The advertisements sound like the perfect blend of financial risk and reassurance. But experts warn such products aren't always what they are cracked up to be.

On the GIC front, the trend in recent years has been toward so-called market-linked GICs. CIBC's Stock Market Advantage GIC is a typical example. For a minimum investment of \$10,000, it offers the chance



MANLY INVESTORS don't understand the complex retirement products they're buying, says Hollister

'PEOPLE NEED TO MAKE IT AS SIMPLE AS POSSIBLE. THAT WAY THE RISKS ARE IDENTIFIABLE.'

says Human. "And you pay for it on fees."

Another increasingly popular investment category is the guaranteed investment certificate, or guaranteed investment certificate with monthly benefit plan, sold by Canadian life insurance companies. Manulife Financial was among the first out of the gate in Canada with its Income Plus product, which has accumulated some \$10 billion in assets in three years. The plan, also known as sensible annuities, targets baby boomers close to retirement who are afraid they will outlive their savings. Investors essentially hand over their retirement savings in exchange for guaranteed minimum annual payouts, say five per cent, over a set period—usually 20 years—or for life after the investor has age 65. It also gives them the opportunity to increase the size of their monthly payouts by spreading their investments across a range of diversified funds run by third-party managers—provided, of course, that the underlying funds outperform price index funds. If the manager does badly and the original investment is罔apped, the guaranteed min-

imum payout levels are reinstated.

Gary Haleman, a financial advisor with ScotiaBank, says a key problem with any guaranteed product is not necessarily the one, which may be justified depending on the value investors place on security. What concerns him is the overall complexity. "The first point is absolutely huge," he says. The reality, though, is that many investors aren't even sure what sorts of financial instruments they are seriously purchasing, which can be a recipe for disaster down the road. He recommends that investors stick to what they understand, even if the potential return doesn't seem as eye-popping. "People tend to try and make it as simple as possible. At least than way the risks are identifiable."

Other guaranteed products can be even more complicated. Take principal-protected notes, for example. These promise investors the chance to participate in complex hedge-fund-like investing strategies while gaining access to the initial investment over a medium period—typically 10 years. The fine print, though, is often so complicated that most investors will probably never hope to grasp, are penalties if you try to withdraw early and opaque management fees associated with the underlying investments that can eat into potential returns. Similarly, segregated funds—mutual funds held by life insurance companies that guarantee to return a portion of the principal after a certain period—can be costly for the same reasons. "There's a funding of safety that you pay for,"

says a market for issuer-backed commercial paper—a supposedly "safe" investment that strays investors from small investors to major corporations.

"There were regulators and industry people there, but I had a blue suit and I looked just like everybody else," says Bell. "I was advised in some of the things that were being said in public. They were making great amounts of

encouraged by her advisor to invest in a lesser-known mutual fund, a highly risky investment that promises to mitigate investment losses by using borrowed money. Of course, the flip side of such a strategy is that potential losses are magnified as well. "People can lose their shirt."

Even relatively straightforward investments

such as mutual funds, held by nearly half of

wireless with MDR—funds do have expenses after all, including management salaries, research, distribution and marketing—the professional services investors are paying for don't always yield a client-lasting performance. And that's a hard hit, since the better it needs to perform in order for investors to make money.

A report released earlier this year by Morningstar gave Canada a failing grade when it came to its mutual fund fees. "Canada has noted early high management expense ratios," the report said, adding that the typical investor in a Canadian equity fund pays an MER of between two and 2.5 per cent. "Canadian investors do not pay much attention to fees" and are uncomfortable with them "because they don't know how low these fees should actually be." The report claims that because Canadians tend to rely heavily on advisors to make investment decisions, their money tends to get dumped into funds that pay bury hidden and, hence, higher MERs.

High fees are partly responsible for the growing popularity of exchange-traded funds in recent years. ETFs offer lower fees and function as a sort of cross between stocks—they are purchased from a broker and track an index exchange—thus a mutual fund that allows investors to buy into a portfolio of investments.

While it might suffice some as unscrupulously as those on the financial adviser and insurance industry require those how they get paid, Hollister says it's crucial for investors to be able to hire upfront and fresh documents. He cautions that fees are just one and that there is a time and place for more complex investing strategies, depending on the individual circumstances.

In the end, though, it all comes down to being educated about your portfolio and confident about its ability to deliver returns. "Don't give up," says Hollister. "Don't try to convince everyone and everything out there. And involve more the level of risk is appropriate." Otherwise, your investments are likely to be making everybody a nice slice of change—everybody, that is, but you. ■

CANADIANS PAY NOTORIOUSLY HIGH MUTUAL FUND FEES COMPARED TO AMERICANS



money and even the people selling these products don't understand them."

It all raises the question of who investors are supposed to turn to when they want to get a hold of their product and the rules of the game can border on incomprehensible. The answer, according to Bell, is not always comfortable. While most financial advisers are honest, hard-working people, Bell says that the system needs to change the marketplace since many advisers, although nice, are paid commissions based on the investments they sell. And while investors ultimately responsible for their own decisions, Bell says they are effectively putting themselves against the legions of high-priced financial professionals who have created the investment products in the first place. "There is such a proliferation of products, the average individual can't evaluate all of them," says Bell. "They don't know what's good and what's bad."

He recalls a story of one adviser who was

commissioned, and ended up less and than that can be easy to miss. Don Johnson is a retired journalist who lives in Victoria and works with the firm associated with Investors in Funds. He has launched a letter-writing campaign to regulators and consulting firms, calling for greater disclosure so they choose information to investors, taking particular umbrage with a unique Canadian creation called a "tulip": "Evaluation of the management expense ratios, or MERs, charged by mutual funds, under laws are meant to cover the ongoing expenses and compensation of professional financial advisers and effectively set as a sales commission." Sometimes, he says, friends, "Do you pay trailer fees?" and they say, "I haven't got an RV," Johnson says. "Most people don't know anything about the fees they pay, and that's by design."

The question of mutual funds has been a hot topic in recent years among Canadian investors. While there's nothing inherently wrong with MDR—funds do have expenses after all, including management salaries, research, distribution and marketing—the professional services investors are paying for don't always yield a client-lasting performance. And that's a hard hit, since the better it needs to perform in order for investors to make money.

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SMALL ALES, BIG SALES

Craft beer-makers are thriving even as big brewers struggle

BT PHILIPS MACDONALD — President, BT's Phillips Brewing Co. Doubled its sales last month, the Victoria microbrewery — a gold medalist at the Canadian Brewing Awards — will double capacity, says its sensible master brewer, Alan Phillips. The Nova Scotia brewer doubled the brewhouse, east of Seven Islands near Victoria, a year ago, racking credit cards oltre bills took a pain-in-the-butt brewer's plan. But Paul was crooning his beer "all the time he brewed" I used to have had a really good year," says the 35-year-old, who is hoping to begin exporting to the U.S. An economic griped country, like other businesses can boast of such success.

2006. Indie "craft" beer makers like Phillips, however, are bucking the trend. Despite a higher price point, and without marketing or advertising, they're seeing double-digit growth. Indeed, they represent the industry's fastest-growing segment—and they are striking fear into the mass-market brewers who dominate

co-owner FirstKey Consulting. "The big trend in beer right now is a switch from industrial beer." Because more and more people want a "real" tasting, happy, flavoursome beer," he says, a bunch of new craft beers have come onto the market. With names like Goldthorpe, Split Spilt, The Shire, Dunkel, Trout Slayin', Old Lagerhumper, All About Puffin' Tuna, and Black Hand of God Stout, there's lots to spoil.

consumers of 34 per cent, surpassing even the bigger, more established craft market in the U.S., where sales grew by 12 per cent in '16.) In Ontario, where microbrewers have captured five per cent of the market share, the province's annual LICO ring in \$12 million in craft sales, a 10 per cent increase over the previous year. Yukon Brewing Co., one of the country's fastest growing breweries, has even begun coming along—micro-brewery Bé Melusin à Thetford, in fact—much earlier than 10 years ago, would have been unimaginable.

"The market is going like gangbusters," says Paul Woodhouse, a chartered business man at Cawston's at the base of the hill for 20 years.

**EMPLOYEE
OF THE
WEEK**

TO SERVE AND PROTECT—AND GET FREE ICE CREAM

Shopping at a Ben & Jerry's ice cream shop in Del Ray, Va., police officer Michael J. Murphy was approached by a woman who asked him, "What's I'm gonna do up?" The 30-year-old police officer, who gave her two scoops of strawberry shortcake ice cream, let his flavours of choice bloom all without paying, sharing the treat with his girlfriend just outside the shop. The officer, who also "forgot" to pay for dinner at the International House of Pancakes, was fired.

blanket scottish in a Belgian style (rad bruin.)

"Once you taste a craft ale," says Michael Pithley, author of the new book, *Craft Beer: An American History of Beer in Canada*, "there's no turning back." Bulyea—now the import marketing director of Labatt in Canada, too—is less inclined to tout the benefits of craft beer in such stark, one-third-the-hops-and-one-fourth-the-IBU's, a standard measure for bitterness, than a standard West Coast India pale ale. It also has far per cent alcohol content, packing 8.5% ABV. All the punch of a classic ale, says Pithley.

In response to that sales shift, even the big established companies are going "crafty"—according they're nervous about homogenization, and the array of new competition shipping away at their market share. Last year, Miller Coors entered the craft beer arena with its own "small batch" beers ("Craft Beer Done Late"), which promises it. Last summer, the Belgian brewer Anheuser-Busch InBev launched Beach Born Double IPA and Jack's Pumpkin Spez Ale, and a marketing campaign featuring vivid descriptions of flavours, smells, sounds, pouring techniques and food pairings. The big-brew makers have been trying to stay their way into the sector. This fall, Molson Coors, which oversees Coors Brewing Company in Ontario, acquired upstart Grassyfield Brewing Co., one of B.C.'s first microbreweries. MillerCoors also owns like Moon, the second

biggest-selling craft beer in the U.S.

MolsonCoors, which has 10 K razors group studying how to better serve men since no women—an audience they've long been used to with brands such as Old Spice. It also launched low-calorie Molson 87. In Quebec, it's also test driving another generic Molson M called "mild," a beer bubble.

Canadian brewer Labatt has had significant success in the price decade, and not for the better for big brewers. Sales of the former

WheatonCoors, Laker and Sleeman, a net-up that Jones' expense of small brewers. Similarly, Laker and MolsonCoors each made bigger sales than all the microbrewers combined. But traditional brewers—carriers, distributor, and packagers—ended up in near-egregious decline with Molson's "Lager Container" which will have a rough time finding an place.

Successive mergers have brought two mega corporations, and neither are in Canada owned. They have now US-owned renamed. With beer, as with oil, the country's beer market has tipped over. "The big question industry analysts are asking," says Woodhouse, at "where will earnings come from next?"

THEY'RE NERVOUS
naturalist reporter, Lubitz Blue, are "stealing prairypottery," says Padley Bush's lawyer, Acheson Bush, a man once pitching power-hungry global steel giant Stelco across to Canada MolsonCoors, which continues to struggle

Entrepreneurs are cashing out a 15 per cent stake by 2015. Redundant or not, the growing demand for investment income from middle-class savers, who are looking for a freer, faster beer than's made closer to home, by locally owned companies.

Surprise your audience, and you'll make them think. That could really mix off, eh?

A man and a woman are standing in a guitar shop. The man, wearing a black shirt, is holding a red acoustic guitar and smiling. The woman, wearing a white shirt, is also smiling. They are standing in front of a wall filled with guitars.

BECAUSE ENTREPRENEURS
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Want to have a dream vacation like no other? At one special hotel in Nantes, France, those dreams can be realized. Guests who stay in the "Hamster Villa" can run on a paved wheel, sleep on a hamster wheel, stretch in a giant hamster wheel, and even drink from a cage. It costs about \$180 per night, but the price is soon expected to rise after all, what self-respecting student would live in a cage without wireless Internet and a big-screen TV?

SCOTT FREE

Scott Thompson of Kids in the Hall talks about having cancer

BY JOSHUA OSTRICK • "What? I won the lymphoma? I had no idea! I was even nominated," jokes Scott Thompson. "There are so many of us people that are even more deserving." The ever-thoughtful number of calls stretch endlessly trigger the folks in the Hall says this, as one might imagine, with tongue in cheek and dressed in drag. But though Thompson may be joking, he's not kidding—this past spring, the Canadian sitcom comedy star was diagnosed with cancer. "I have ... blood clots in my lungs," he says.

Thompson looks paper-paisanne, oriented using—such as his fuzzy mohawk, black wig, fake eyebrows and shockingly lifelike beautician makeup—"made me look like a real medical technician." On a visit to Thompson's office in North Bay, Ont., he's seated in a wheelchair after tearing a nail muscle than taking the "Kids" costume reservoirs for the CRC. Middle-aged and bald, but more likely his injury is an indirect consequence of Thompson's chemotherapy regimen—the sixth-exercising round completed only two weeks before flailing. "My body feels good," he smiles. "But it's fragile."

The upcoming Kids reunion is an eight-episode made-for-TV movie called *Death Comes to Town*. But, really, "This series has been beheaded by disease and radiation—and in the middle is this wonderful phrase, 'Death Comes to Town,'" Thompson, 50, reasonably making it a new name surreal in that North Bay is where he lived until age eight. "In fact

luring way, I've come home to be reborn," he says, eyes gleaming. "With what I've been through this year, to rise from the ashes here has been a really remarkable experience."

Thompson joined the Hall in the Hall—alongside Dave Foley, Kevin McDonald, Bruce McCulloch and Martin McKinnon—a quaternary age. Their sketch series, which aired on CBC, CBS and HBO between 1988 and 1995, made them stars—despite a tumultuous exit. But after his subsequent role on *The Larry Sanders Show*, Thompson's career has largely revolved on a few thousand dollars' support (including a connected fungous canal).

A well-received 2008 solo tour in the Hall reunion tour, featuring all-new material, led to this TV show. And then, shortly after the tour was over and gone, Thompson's cancer was discovered. Inserted with a dummy of just that name, his L.A. home one night last March. "I went into complete shock. I spent the night trying to find the doctor's will to hide it again. The next morning when I woke up, I had pain in my stomach."

For Thompson, the gunfire broke the news of a 15-year-old diagnosis he'd witnessed at Centennial Secondary in Brampton, Ont. "It was my class," the shooter noted. Thompson, then a teacher, a student and then himself: "It was as if the bullet had been travelling for so long and they got me. His name was Michael. He sat behind me. I was transported back to that day on Friday—just as the ring gear for my career was an avoidable trigger. But an strange way it served my purpose. It made me go immediately to the doctor."

That doctor diagnosed Thompson's pain as cancer. In his veins, meant cancer wasn't an option. "There was no way other than to push the reset button," he says, and though catching it early, in song one, would prove vital to Thompson's recovery, it made the experience all the more overwhelming. "There's no such thing as an atheist in a hospital—or I was told was pray."

The man though did you could be a pig using the Weinberg Comedy Festival. He was initially worried about the默默 impact of his illness, but quickly already proves a boner. "My job is being light unto the darkness—and guys are like, they don't need me anymore. I'm moving on to a new group, clever people."

One thing that helped Thompson power



IT HELPED Thompson that the other *Kids* did it much more differently: "They accused me of doing it on purpose to grab the spotlight," he says. "Or, at least performing stand-up. I really feel like I have nothing to fear anymore. What's going to happen to me? Someone's going to eat me!"

Then there had to be hope to be inspirational to others. "Did you see my puzzle?" he asks, pointing to a complete 10x10-in. jigsaw of hoodie-wearing Selena Gomez on his dining room table. "I know it's embarrassing, but I'm going to make it. We had the same cancer. She's cancer-free and played great hockey. I find that incredibly inspiring."

Thompson is planning to start his cancer experience tour as the one-man show—formal he used to do at a guest at *The Late Show* in March and 2006's *Justin Bieber: I've never been this excited about performing*—and he's been by his own skin during his battle against the rest of the past six weeks. "Radiation was worse than I expected," he explains from the couch of his Toronto apartment. "That's the problem with solo talk shows for cancer survivors. You should talk to someone who gets it on their skin—so give me intense nausea and pain and exhaustion like I could not believe."

Once Thompson's up, there's no better time to catch him doing what he does best: "I know it's embarrassing, but I'm going to make it. We had the same cancer. She's cancer-free and played great hockey. I find that incredibly inspiring."

"It takes focus on some track and play hard, then I can play hard."



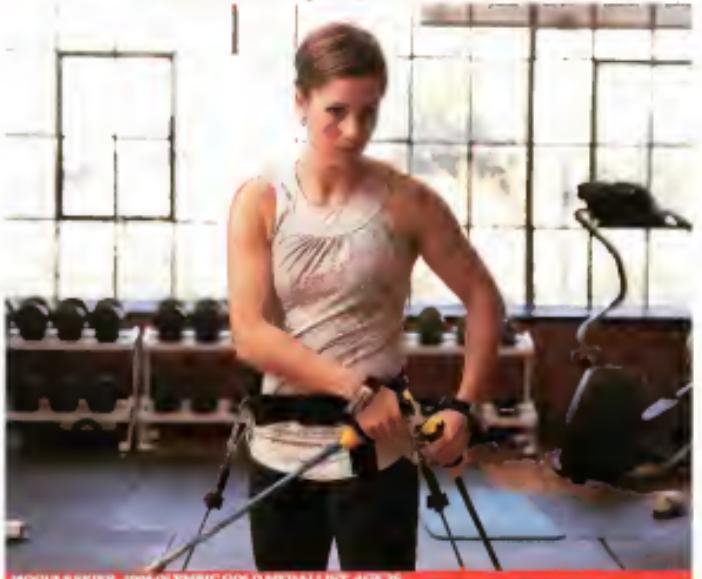
PHOTOGRAPH BY MICHAEL TIGHE



ERONDA



Canada's Olympians: No. 1 of a series



JENNIFER HEIL, 2006 OLYMPIC GOLD MEDALIST IN SKELETON

Jennifer Heil

A HEAD FOR THE GAME

STORY BY KEN DIAZCUELEN • PHOTOGRAPH BY ROGER LEMOINE

Every conversation with Canadian moguls queen Jennifer Heil heralds a new adventure starting. That's her development, painlessly picking the products of Canada's business elite, rock climbing, jewelry design—and that thing the class is so well with a pair of skis and a total absence of fear. When we spoke in February 2006, she was visiting the rounds of Taro Winter Olympics versus a self-supported Team Canada cheerleader. She'd won Canadian gold medal in skeleton nine down the hillier course on the first day

progressive start to Canada's Olympic fortunes. No matter the outcome, and Heil can usually model four more, her next will give those four years of personal development and growth by one very complex Olympian. Most recently, before heading off to the snows of Europe, the award-winning athlete about a dozen gigs with BCBG to design a line of jewelry; she immediately herself in the fashion project, dropping in to work with BCBG's Montreal designer to see what she was in town. "I love right around the corner," she says. "I would drive smiling and have writing all the way." Each sterling silver post incorporates five rings, each with a different texture and each representing a word she believes contributes to success: disease, fear, stress, courage, joy. Didn't read anything in their other comment, she says with a laugh. That is a concession to affordability.

The price of gold is indeed high. At the age of 26, she's already become beaten up by the moguls hill she has twice taken a year off competition, in 2004 and in 2006, to refurbish and regrow. Even so, she's an eight-time Canadian champion, a four-time over-all World Cup champ and has already qualified for her third Olympics. She finished fourth at her first Games in Salt Lake City in 2002, raising the podium by one one-hundredth of a point on an avenue that she's turned and polished on technique. She vanquished woodchucks, snow and courage—combined to make 2006, her year off, a prenatal year.

Stopper back then for top young national team athletes was worryingly low, a fact that frustrated Dennis Gauthier, her young, ambitious coach. "We had external resources and we were asked to spread them equally across everybody," he says. "How frustrating is that for a coach who is trying to build dreams like Jennifer Heil?"

Gauthier quit the team and Edmonton-born Heil moved to Montreal, stuck with her coach and enrolled at McGill. Gauthier and Heil sought private funding. Doug Gross, an Edmonton lawyer, businessman and a Hill family friend, gathered 10 silent partners who bankrolled some of Heil's expenses. In Montreal, Gauthier turned to his friend and mentor J.D. Miller, a merger-and-acquisition specialist. Miller not only rallied several thousand from Montreal's business elite, he invited Elie to live with his family.

A year was assembled to rebalance Heil. They included an orthopedist, a sports psychologist, a nutritionist, and Scott Livingston, then the mitochondrial conditioning coach for the Montreal Canadiens. "She was all banged up," he says, likening her to a race car after a bad run at the track. "We rebuilt this car

and refined that car. Now it's riding over very well," says Livingston. Her classic, five-foot-three, and 121 lbs., is markedly different than that of a brawling hockey player, but they have nothing to teach her about condition or intensity, he says. "Just because she

Jennifer Heil's Olympic Supplies

Do you have a personal ritual? It has to do with music. Using the music to get my energy to the right level. A lot of visualization. And a little bit of dancing in my bed.

What music do you listen to while training? I like Atmosphere that has a good beat. Grizzly High energy is its always top of some sort. Between Justin Timberlake in the wash.

Do you remember your first competition? I do, yes. I was 16. I was Terrified. We drove from Fredericton to Ottawa to compete in the Hills competition. Rock-solid hot. I heard of people crossing the finish line and thinking, "I can't believe I was able to do that. I was probably sick."

Do you have an inspirational quote? It's memorable with bonus unquotable: "I don't know where I placed this up. I had that written on the back of my door growing up."

What has been a guilty pleasure? I like... I like... Cheesecake, movies, jewelry.

tools little doesn't mean she isn't very powerful and strong."

Heil says she won't turn because of her name, and the confidence that comes from knowing "you have done absolutely everything you can." Post-Games, Heil talked with Gauthier and Miller. "Other athletes need to experience this, it was that wonderful," she said. "I didn't think I should be the only athlete leaving this. It needs to be shared."

The result was Blister, a program emerged in part by Miller, with the backing of Heil and Gauthier, her coach and now boyfriend.

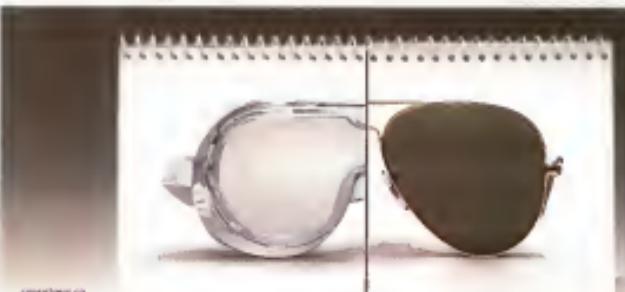
More than \$1 million was raised by donors. Twenty-four onward athletes are part of the program, and about 100 of those are likely bound for Vancouver's Olympics. The money is spent on their unique needs—everybody travels and buys vehicles to equipment and training, comprising a valuable funding program. Like Open the Podium, says Gauthier, "Jen's foundation [in Tarell], all credit to her, created Blister in the shape and form it is now," says Gauthier.

Her success as an sport lets her find her voice in a variety of causes. Among them, she dedicated to Rwanda, as one of many Olympians who support Next Step, a sports-based humanitarian agency helping the world's disadvantaged youth. She also an ambassador for Plan Canada's Because I am a Girl, a program promoting girls' rights internationally as a vehicle for social change. In 2008, she will visit the United States of Africa's poorest countries. She toured a school where sponsorship money gives girls a new chance for education, and was reached by the majority of their dreams to become, manager, lawyer.

For now, her focus turns focus on Cypress Mountain, Feb. 21, 2010, and all it takes to get there. "How nice to be able to compete in my country," she says. After, there's a commitment dinner to friends, family, among other causes, tomorrow. And a return to cedar, on sale at \$10. "She really wants to leave her mark in the sports system," says Gauthier, "and in the world in general."

Her mentor Miller also looks beyond the finish line. "I see Jen as someone who has the potential not only to win gold medals," he says, "but to be the CEO of one of Canada's top 50 companies." It took 16 seconds and a young lifetime to earn it. How's she used that opportunity that creates a champion? ■

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SAVED BY THE BELL

The firefighter's job is changing as ever more medical calls come in

BY RACHEL MENDIGORRA — “Manic,” an elderly Toronto woman whose chain smoking orchestrated her passing her on to us well known to the firefighters at the scene by now that when her address is mentioned on the loudspeaker, they all bellow her name. They lumber up the dark staircase to her squirming apartment as often as three or four times a night. On that particular occasion, they hear a older breathing and give her oxygen. After the paramedics arrive, her colour improves. She signs a waiver, refusing to allow EMS to take her to hospital. On her way out, the fire hall engines are waiting, and place a fireproof cloth in the sink.

While firefighters may be known more for their courage than compassion, she adds, says Sean Bradley, a post-doctoral fellow York University’s Institute for Health Research, “they’re doing more emergency medical care than anything else.” In 2002, 52 per cent of calls to the Toronto Fire Service were medical in nature – a statistic that prompted Bradley to spend 10 months observing the city’s fire fighters. His research, which includes the visit to Manic’s home, is shared for publication via the McGill-Queen’s University Press next spring in a book entitled *Neighbourhoods and Everyday Life*. According to Bradley, the “sentimental assignment of some health care provision” to firefighters has been brought on by several factors: better fire protection, which has freed up firefighters for other tasks; aging baby boomers, a dearth of family doctors, which has forced marginalized populations to use EMS as a way out of the system. It’s a shift that has been subtle and the source of consternation. The result, however, is clear in numbers across Canada, when it comes to be a firefighter is changing significantly.

Firefighters have long played an informal role in health care delivery. Until the ’70s, when thrombolytic paclitaxel became an integral component of emergency health care, they were often called upon to administer copper and deliver CPR. Through paramedics eventually assumed, and dramatically improved upon, pre-hospital care, firefighters continued to assist, particularly on calls when lives are at risk. (In some smaller towns, like Brandon, Man., and Lethbridge, Alta., the paramedic service grew out of the fire department; today, members are cross-

trained to perform all emergency resuscitation.) With the push to expand survival into the cardiac arrests – death from heart attacks – after a particular instance, firefighters were called upon more often, largely part due to the speed at which they can arrive on



EVERY PUMP TRUCK in Winnipeg has a cross-trained firefighter-paramedic.

scene. Due to pressure from home insurers, in urban areas, a pump truck is rarely more than five minutes away.

Toddy, the Toronto experience is hardly unique. In Prince George, B.C., where, according to fire captain and union president John Iversen, 90 per cent of calls to fire departments are medical, “Everybody there gets into this business new fully understanding it’s a big part of the job.” To Iversen, just as much as their road and equipment just make sense, his last year, the Prince George Fire Service became the first in the province to increase the medical training of most of its members to Emergency Medical Responders (EMR) level and because of provincial regulations limiting the degree

that’s “in our repertoire that they should be using.” In 2002, the IAFF made a presentation to the B.C. government, arguing that “the fire personnel often respond to the needs of EMS stations being occupied.” Despite emergency room delays, which, in despite emergency room delays, which, in some circumstances, can up ambulances to the point where not a single EMS vehicle is available for hours at a time, Lee says that, since 2002, not much has changed. “The political will is still not there.”

Though the specific guidelines that regulate the provision of emergency medical care vary, in both Ontario and B.C., firefighters are limited to basic resuscitation at life-threatening situations, such as providing oxygen to an

asthmatic or applying a defibrillator to someone in cardiac arrest. In B.C., change could be on the horizon: the province is reviewing regulation that governs what firefighters can and can’t do in emergencies, and, in a pilot project, Prince George firefighters will soon be allowed to provide some EMR-level skills under the supervision of a medical doctor.

But as they wade further into the realm of emergency medicine, firefighters also find the motives at odds with those whose reason

they can tell ambulance, which are often in short supply, to turn back. The new regulation seems to be working. Last year, the firemen handled some 40,000 medical calls on their own. But the partner defibrillator committee? That arrangement got some ruffles between the firefighters and paramedics despite the joint work, by the time a dialysis machine reached, those units had become overwhelmed in formal labour disputes with the city. According to Fire and Paramedic Chief Jim Brewster, the difficulty came from trying to harmonize two distinct workplace cultures, with different seniority structures, uniforms and levels of safety. Brewster, who in the system worked for Frank Parmenter, the Belfast cardiologist who pioneered pacemakers, can, he says, have a unique understanding of changing emergency protocols in real-life situations. “When you do that, sometimes you have fun, and that causes conflict.”

But even internally, the cultural divide between firefighters and paramedics is stark. Even deep, of the 10 firefighters interviewed, Lee says, “all but four express sentiments ranging from disinterest to outright revulsion of their work in the health care profession,” which, he says, has “shaken the higher morale and career for service and firefighting culture.” As a firefighter in her study explains: “The things they’re asking us to do are so far outside the realm of what we’re supposed to do, that you almost feel like ‘I’m losing some of what I was really meant to be.’”

But regardless of any apprehension they may have, firefighters understand that, for better or worse, their role evolves according to the public need. This need, it turns, is the reason Toronto firefighters continue to board up Manic’s home. As one member told Bradley, “Some people would say she’s a nuisance, but she needs help. There is no one like. So we do it.” ■



LAST YEAR IN WINNIPEG, THE FIRE TRUCKS HANDLED SOME 10,000 MEDICAL CALLS ON THEIR OWN

For instance, in pre-hospital care, paramedics Darryl Wilson, president of Ottawa Professional Paramedic Association, argues the push by fire departments to take on more medical responsibility as purely “hand-carried” instances at the site of a “damaged car

TONICS

INSTEAD OF ASPIRIN, WHY NOT A CUP OF MINT TEA?

For those in need of pain relief, a cup of mint tea might be just as good as Aspirin, experts say. In a study, mice were given tea made from dried mint leaves, an Aspirin solution, or water. A hot light was then applied onto their paws; scientists observed how long it took each mouse to lift its paw for pain relief. Mice who got the tea lifted their paw to rest just like those that got Aspirin; researchers concluded both treatments were equally effective.



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music
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go to...
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steyn
Berlin
in a bucket
P. H.



P.D. James dishes on detective fiction

The famous novelist has some strong opinions about the state of her craft **BY BRIAN BETHUNE**



Member of Britain's literary set, writers tend to bring up the names of long-dead women—Agatha Christie (naturally), Dorothy Sayers, Agatha Christie (again), Dorothy L. Sayers, Agatha Christie (third time's the charm)—and one living one, Phyllis Dautch James. Barbara James of Holland Park in the County of Staffordshire—more commonly known as P.D. James, it is now known by her more recent finished writing career of 40 years, James has so far produced 26 books, most of them bestsellers as well as an equally acclaimed, garnered influence ranging from her life passage to senior honorary doctorates and even become the subject of a French PhD thesis, *Personnage et personnage dans les romans à suspense de P. D. James*.

In her newest book, *Talking About Detective Fiction*, the esteemed 86-year-old James reflects on the enduring human appetite for mystery and murder and how some of our most prominent histories of storytelling (including herself) have gone about their flying. When James writes about her craft, she remembers instruction, both for her academic publications and as a director, to link to the so-called golden age of Christie and the other Queens of Crime. After all, she was there—a Depression era teenager who would write her pen as big as the latest Sayers novel.

While James cannot recall a time when she didn't want to be a writer, she turned to the task with little remuneration until in her mid-30s, when she felt she had had enough. James had just been married, Connor White, a medical student, while she was working at a theatre in Cambridge. He came back from the Second World War diagnosed with schizophrenia, and spent years in psychiatric hospitals before his death in 1986. Connor was never unhappy though, James once dryly commented, having been well prepared by his education at a minor public school and in the army. "For some time," she recalled, "he walked at the

library but also captured the sooner than I did." I know whether any games were played away, but those at home ground had their moments of eccentricity. Connor was pleased when, during one game, the goal-keeper beganinging his venus and instead amorous, eyes raised to heaven, while the ball whizzed past him into goal."

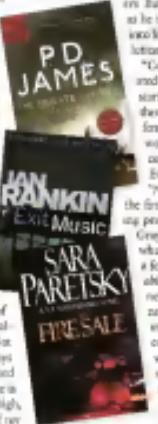
However devastating the emotional toll of Connor's decline, the practicality imposed by James's pressing need to support their two young daughters. She sold off hospital addressed letters and embarked on an arduous full 10-year career in the British bureaucracy. First in health administration and later in the criminal justice system. And the writer, though initially private, not to say classically well-spiced (indeed, in the days up to Madeline, "didn't want to write autobiographical fiction, not about the war or my 'household' illness"), James, the hard-core diarist since adolescence with the question of how to summarise an event, what had gone off, character, setting and plot, a writer should tackle—and always pursued—she wanted to publish Detective fiction, where structure is paramount and tales (potentially) high, and no one demands frustration of her plotting, was a natural choice. Her first novel, *No Great Sin*, was the main protagonist. New Scotland Yard Constable Adam Dalgliesh, named after her King's at which Cambridge High School for Girls, made the first of his 14 appearances in *Cover Her Eyes* (1981).

It was a contemporary drama of the golden age of detection, a professional during a diagnosable job, not an amateur or dilettante. In the pool of history, eventually in the highest rank ("I never thought I'd live to see a writer about herself, but I have"), Dalgliesh acquired a female junior associate, Kate Marks, whose private life occu-

ps he was sensible but not sentimental—he'd murder itself than doesn't seem to be anything James despises more than soppy sentimentality—and gives added gravitas by the fact he was a widower who had lost both wife and child in childbirth. What freed James from the need to focus on dramatic tragedy, though, which, she says, she would have found dull. (And painful too, perhaps, at that point in her life.) Dalgliesh's tragic past also considerably upped his appeal to women readers. But as attractive and endearing as he is, Dalgliesh just segued and left under the Sonoran red-lit sunset scene.

"Genuinely, I would have one and a woman detective were I starting now," James says. "Such then women police looked like female prison wardens at best, walked with children, they certainly weren't detectives." Even when, at the flush of '70s fineness, James wrote the first of her two novels featuring private investigator Cordelia Gray in 1973, the title reflected what male officers thought of a female detective: *An Unladylike Job* for a Woman. James has never concealed it her less-than-awfully critique society in any way. "Noisy jobs to contend the men model I can write with a satisfying and satisfactorily solved mystery story"—but the struggle of working women especially in male-dominated fields (like the British police and, until service, how always surfaced in her books).

As women began to rise in the ranks of history, eventually in the highest rank ("I never thought I'd live to see a writer about herself, but I have"), Dalgliesh acquired a female junior associate, Kate Marks, whose private life occu-



JAMES advises the work of fellow mystery novelists Ian Rankin and Sara Paretsky

usually affluent upperclass. In one novel, "Social services expected her to look after her aged parents in a way they never would have asked of a rural police officer." Jones notes. The novel is also about Chicago-area Sam Precious, "the most revolting of the modern," who Janes believes "consciously" uses detective fiction for self-entertainment. In his novels (TV) Windawalka, "a courageous, acutely literate female investigator."

Purging a strong critique of精英的上层社会 (upper-middle-class) political powerlessness. His other focus seems among contemporary crime writers: progress from their rage big resolved settings. His man C. J. Sansom's series about church-based law per Matthew Shandwick—highly intelligent, liberal-minded and (no surprise) unconventional—set in the reign of Henry VIII, places her with its plumpier acquaintance The BBC is soon to film the first Shandwick novel, with the lawyer played by Kenneth Branagh, who is starting to make a habit of this sort of thing, having recently depicted Swedish detective Kurt Wallander in the TV adaptation of Henning Mankell's highly popular series.

Bornstein Jones is not really a model of courtesy—at one point in the interview she expressed regret age would prevent her from "unpayable" visits to Canada—but mention of it—Wallander brings out her more sympathetic side. She deplores "the modern tendency to stereotype senior detectives as solitary, aloof, hard-drinking, psychologically damaged and disillusioned. And they all have trouble with their children! If someone created a highly nuanced detective who enjoys his work and spends his free time playing the piano, I think readers would find him credible, but he would certainly be an original!" Birnbaum—sheer irony here!—says her hero Lord Peter Wimsey broke the same reaction, which James admires when Wimsey is reduced to tears on the execution day of a murderer he was instrumental in convicting. Janes writes that "some readers"—i.e., PD Jones—"may feel he had somehow confined himself to collecting lost editions" if he found the result of his work so troubling.)

Janes is also a huge fan of Ian Rankin, creator of Edinburgh Detective Inspector John Rebus, for much the same quality she

**She deplores
‘the modern
tendency to
stereotype
senior
detectives as
disillusioned’**



HENNING MANKELL (TOP); C. J. Sansom (BOTH: GENE KORNBLITH/NETFLIX)



FINALLY, A BOOK ABOUT... HOW WE CAN READ
reading, and its big ideas, are arguably the core of human civilization. That makes us into history-savers, argues French historian and philosopher Deleuze in *Reading the Bones* (Penguin). In our private notebooks, part of the book's temporal logic, we evolved to respond to specific visual stimuli—of fire, for instance. In humans that area becomes what Deleuze calls the "territory," "allowing us to process incoming written words within the limits of a visual

adventure narrative. "You get a much better idea of what it means to be a police officer" (he Edinburgh, and of Edinburgh itself, from a Rebus story than from any official report), says Janes, who has read and written more than a few boneheaded misadventures in her life. Adorable! Janes is Rankin's "favourite" for allowing Rebus to retire; a boldness reflected by most of us in our serial writers. Most and to love their creators fixed near the age first assigned to them. That includes Janes. A dad, gosh, a senior detective in 1962, must be almost as old as his creator herself, but he remains as subtle, ingenuous and energetic in his plots. For fun using it away on the naming game, Dolphus actually got married!

(*An Expert Witness*)

Jones among the most now-living practitioners ever of her craft, finds on particular need to defend its value. The claim that detective fiction's formulaic requirements—for a mystery, a circle of suspects, a solo hero—present clear military advantages makes her laugh. It requires, in her opinion, no originality or technical demands than Shakespeare's poetry. By definition, cannot he art? "And how many writers continue to find those structures actually interesting?" she asks in reference to the great flood of war-torn crime writing she sees today. The detective story classically returns writer from chaos setting things right again, or as right as they can be in the wake of carnage. A "cruel" crime that damages everyone it touches.

That's why detective fiction is popular, Janes argues, and why its popularity and production are increasing in an era when most Britons "feel quite disengaged by crime and disorder than at any other time in her life in any living life." It is, as not so likely to James, "dreadfully dismal. Bourgeois here is the most difficult of times," as it did in the green years between the wars, when people want to feel that, however irretrievable our problems, human ingenuity and courage can solve them, "we may still be at the beginning of a new golden age." ■

Who says all is fair in love and war?



MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Learn more about the Faculty of Law's international law internship program. Working with courts established for war-torn countries such as Sierra Leone, students are helping judges review cases involving horrific war crimes—including the brutalization of children kidnapped and brainwashed into serving as soldiers.

Western's Faculty of Law is giving voice to the most vulnerable victims of war through its international law internship program. Working with courts established for war-torn countries such as Sierra Leone, students are helping judges review cases involving horrific war crimes—including the brutalization of children kidnapped and brainwashed into serving as soldiers.

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ELISABETH MOSS in *The Young Victoria*. Jean-Marc Vallée's previous film was about another teenager at odds with a dysfunctional family

A Quebec Queen Victoria: C.R.A.Z.Y.

What happens when an indépendantiste is asked to direct a story about British royalty?

BY BRAD D. JOHNSON • It's hard to imagine a less likely candidate to direct an ardent, costume drama about British royalty: Quebecois Jean-Marc Vallée, the hotly buzzed-for writing and directing *C.R.A.Z.Y.* (2005), a movie decked out with rock 'n' roll about a working-class couple discovering his homo-sexuality in a rough-and-tumble gay bathhouse of East End Montreal. Until recently, Vallée's only concrete return of Quebec independence lay in the dozen or so Quebec indépendantistes, which he'll reprise, calling himself "a soft indépendantiste." But an odd couple of producers—Martin Scorsese and Sarah Ferguson, the duchess of York—recruited him to direct *The Young Queen Victoria*, a coming-of-age story about the wild cow who became England's longest reigning monarch. And he pulled it off with remarkable grace.

Scorsese discovered *C.R.A.Z.Y.* through his producing partner, Graham King (*The Departed*), who says he file it under "Scorsese-ism": "They don't consider my origins or my nationality," Vallée told *Maclean's* last week. "They just said, 'Okay, we love this like. We get it, you could do something classic but at the same time give it a modern edge.'" Speaking by phone from an airport lounge en route to Paris to shoot a TV insurance ad with Charlotte Rampling—the 68-year-old actress he'd been casting through scripts for a year and a half before hitting upon *The Young Victoria*, which was penned by Oscar-winning screenwriter Julian Fellowes (*Gosford Park*). "It was a challenge for me, and that's why I wanted to make it," Vallée explains. "It's no match for any movie. I was attracted by the royal family. But once I had to make a film in them, I became curious to know about

its own visual elegance, one that's psychological rather than political. And it's not surprising the film struck a chord with Scorsese. Vallée notes that American director Peter Weir staged dramatic pageantry to classic rock songs, notably by the Rolling Stones.

For Vallée, Valley didn't go as far as Sofia Coppola, who used contemporary pop to tease *Marie Antoinette*. But he did play rock music on the set to get his actors in the mood as they danced in various English castles and palaces. He also gave his stars pop songs to inform their roles, including French actress *The Young Victoria*'s Emily Watson (McMafia) and Albert (Rupert Friend) as he prepares to inherit the throne from her sibling uncle, the callow-as-usual King William IV (Jim Broadbent). As a continuing opportunity to fix her face, including the delicate duchess (Sarah Ferguson), the royal team finds an ally in Lord Melbourne, the prime minister (Paul Bettany). And her companion, at 18, who begins to court her, independence as a showpiece. "I was at that point that Albert, who mentors her the next year, comes to resent his nieces. With pre-existing largesse, Victoria lets him throw himself into managing, renegotiating the royal staff."

As a table about a teenager at odds with a dysfunctional family, *The Young Victoria* is not so removed from Vallée's previous film, which was penned by Oscar-winning screenwriter Julian Fellowes (*Gosford Park*). "There's a difference, though. It's similar," he says, "but in a completely different outfit, class, period and setting." *C.R.A.Z.Y.* has been mulling through scripts for a year and a half before hitting upon *The Young Victoria*, which was penned by Oscar-winning screenwriter Julian Fellowes (*Gosford Park*).

MICHAEL PHELPS

Phelps has a new address for laundry services. Once a tenant to Nicole Johnson, the Mrs. California USA runner-up in 2005, he recently reported he broke up with her over a romance—Carrie Preston, the cohost of 2009 Miss California USA. "Carrie started having doubts about it while he was still with Nicole," he said. Phelps has 16% more to say now: His work is, *laissez les bon temps rouler*. After two years at *America's Got Talent*, the 24-year-old Phelps has left to Ryan Lochte,

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WE'RE STALKING

Phelps has a new address for laundry services. Once a tenant to Nicole Johnson, the Mrs. California USA runner-up in 2005, he recently reported he broke up with her over a romance—Carrie Preston, the cohost of 2009 Miss California USA. "Carrie started having doubts about it while he was still with Nicole," he said. Phelps has 16% more to say now: His work is, *laissez les bon temps rouler*. After two years at *America's Got Talent*, the 24-year-old Phelps has left to Ryan Lochte,

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MACLEAN'S
MAKE SENSE OF IT ALL.

WIVES LEFT at home would try to kiss each other's spouses. "I had my first baby when my husband was deployed and it was at Christmas."

What military wives need to know

Don't talk about how 'wasted' you got when he calls home. And never mail risqué photos.

BY JULIA MORINSELL • "My best advice? Never, and I mean never, talk about your marriage with another man," writes the wife of a U.S. marine who fought in Iraq. "You may need to let off steam but it's best to go to the other wives, your chaplain or your therapist. Men LOVE to make it better for lonely military wives," writes Mollee Gross in *Confessions of a Military Wife*, a raw tell-all book that's packed with advice from other military wives, culled from the author's experience living at Camp Pendleton in California. "Even if you do not have feelings for them, men will develop feelings for you."

In a recent phone interview with Maclean's, Gross describes military life for women as going back into the 1950s—most women don't work and are full-time housewives, raising kids. "I did notice a lot of the women talking on a daily basis. It shocked me. I encourage women to ask themselves, what can I learn while my husband is away?" She suggests learning to sew or learning French or taking a cooking class. When her own husband, Jon, was deployed, Gross honored her skills as a stand-up comedian, which is her current career in Los Angeles now that he's back.

When her husband is away, she has no idea where he'll get a chance to call home, says Gross. It might be over the course of the deployment. It might be never. He could be in the middle of the night. "You have to be so careful. You don't know what their day has been like. You can't be, 'Oh, we're part partying up! We're wasted!' I don't know about Canadians but Americans love their alcohol!" On the rare times when Jon called from Iraq, Gross says she never knew if someone had tried to call him earlier that morning, "and that's why they said, 'Hey, you just a

close call.' Why don't you take some hours for yourself? Call your wife? You have to put yourself aside, and no matter what you're feeling when he calls, you have to be apathetic." In the book, she advises, "I'm not saying you should hide things from him but you need to think before you speak. Some of my more trusted girlfriends suggested keeping a list next to the bedroom phone, 'in you're not caught off guard when the phone rings.'

Gross has heard stories from "wannans" about brief, temporary moments of porn on deployment, she writes. "You did not settle well with me. However, I knew that seven months would be a long time to go without sexual relations. I decided to take initiative into my own hands." Gross found a female professional pornographer to take "boozed-up" photos of her side posed in a red bra and panties in front of the American flag. But "word to the wind," she writes. "If you do blowup photos for your man, he has to give her the photos before he leaves. Do not forget them. Remember packages can be searched and confiscated. Unless you want to be a pain for the airman liaison, keep them in a photo album they give him before he leaves."

Holidays like Christmas, and romantic days like Valentine's and anniversaries, can be "risky," writes Gross. "It can be very hard to say sorry for yourself." To fight the gross

says the wives played the "Dad Up Game"—a game of "bragging about all the drugs we had to do without our men." One wife would begin with, "Well, my husband has missed every Valentine's Day and wedding anniversary for the first three years of our marriage." Her commentaries in invitation to another wife to challenge her suffering. The next player proclaims, "I had my first baby when my husband was deployed and it was at Christmas!" Razzmatazz and sympathy is awarded in the game. This is a competition for bragging rights, not compassion.

As the fighting in Iraq increased, writes Gross, she and other military wives found it more and more difficult to leave the base and go outside. Typically, when a female civilian learned that Gross's husband was a marine, the civilian would say, "Oh Lord! Well, he's fighting, isn't he?" "Yes, ma'am, actually, he's in the cafeteria," Gross would explain. Then the civilian would turn to say and reach out to Gross for a hug. Gross never said anything but something thought, "Gee, lady. Haven't been laid in three months and you want a hug?" Then there were the complete strangers who "would think twice when married to a deployed marine I would want to know their political opinions." Gross's advice to civilians: "Express your opinions in the polls, not in my face. And please don't think you can say anything you want as long as you put it in writing. I support our troops." Stay right there. No body wants to hear what you think!



MOST IMPROVED

Kate Winslet was associated with her formerly-festive Bridget Jones character in the British press and off. "I'm not a c***. I'm busy," that's my life," she once said. How things have changed! Zellweger's been spotted in Vancouver with a new beau: The Hangover star Bradley Cooper, who's portraying a remainder of the *A-Team*. There's rumors suggest he'll play the lead role in *The Aviator*. *Avatar* star Jake Gyllenhaal is reportedly involved.

RENEE ZELLWEGER

Photo: AP/Wide World



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Did I mention we're now gluten-free?

FREQUENTLY, "gluten-free" is code for "taste-free," yielding cinder-block breads, drywall cakes and bananagrams that smell of regret.

The whole 'I'm off wheat' thing

The number of celiacs has increased fourfold. Then there are all the newly gluten-sensitive.'

BY ANNE KIMSTON • Gluten waterlooer: She's a recovering theme this year among high-profile, self-assured nutritional gurus, on her website to her 10-million GLOW, Gwyneth Paltrow raved about her seven-day gluten-free "cleanse" and BabyCakes, the fashionable vegans and gluten-free New York bakery that sells US\$30-a-loaf banana bread. The View co-host Elisabeth Hasselbeck promoted her book, *The G-Free Diet: A Gluten-Free Survival Guide to Middle-Ages and former Playboy Jenny McCarthy*, who claims a plane and custom-fit diet helped her son recover from autism, shaved all the beef out of her diet, and the like. Shape So when you're bewitched by "I don't eat gluten" (except this holiday season, know you're not alone).

Duff Goldman, the owner of *Biscoff's* Duffer's Pastries, which offers gluten- and wheat-free cookies, can relate. Customers regularly come into her store griping, "We got people who don't eat wheat," she says. "As for why, I've been asking under the assumption it's autism, every kind of digestive disorder, bipolar. Some people say 'gluten makes me sluggish and not eating it makes me feel so much better.'"

The spectrum of those who are "gluten-free" ranges so vast, it's difficult to sort them from shell. At one end are celiacs afflicted with an autoimmune disorder that makes them highly allergic to the protein found in wheat, barley and rye—Bleasdale's diet staples. Their numbers have risen fourfold in the past 20 years, according to a Mayo Clinic study published in the July *Gastroenterology*, which showed that for every diagnosed celiac, six suffer from undiagnosed. Also on the rise are those who are gluten "sensitive," says

Perri Schulz Rod, a Tucson naturopathic doctor. "It can have a huge impact on quality of life, causing gas, bloating, and general 'yuck' factor," she says. She blames the spike in high-gluten intake and processed starch, which degrades the production of digestive enzymes that break down gluten that in turn creates small inflammatory lesions in the bowel. "That's working its way through the body, changing around our bodies are not designed for it," she says. At the other extreme are "gluten-free" dabblers, among them Paltrow (who also steers up "yummy" recipes for peace alla arrabbiata and house muffins), and celebs who buy \$3.99 gluten-free bread because the behavior's cooler to depict.

Hasselbeck, too, qualified those words in her book, marking it to the 99 per cent of the population that is not allergic to a grain weight loss, cleanse skin and better sleep, much to the chagrin of the U.S. Wheat Foods Council. It also ticked off some of her fellow celebs concerned that anyone on a "gluten-free" diet will be discussed in a field, inspiring Jim Moulher, executive director of the Canadian Celiac Association. "They say 'I have to do this, it's a food safety issue, it's a health issue, it's not a lifestyle issue,'" Gluten was initially shamed in the food chain but it's everything from salmon waffles to croutons made. That makes eating macarons, says

Melissa Whiteman, whose can be "gluten-free" or not depending on whether it's made in the U.S. with white vinegar or in Canada with malt vinegar.

"It's easy to go hungry in a field," says Victoria Edelberg, who opened GF Pantry in Carmichael, Alta., 15 months ago. So desperate are her customers for a good gluten-free buttercream, they'll drive three hours of province; one woman drove 10 hours from Penetanguishene, B.C., for annual loads. Little surprise self-cooking-free products like Mary's Organic Cookies, develop a cult following.

More frequently, though, "gluten-free" is code for "taste-free," yielding cinder-block breads, drywall cakes and bananagrams that smell of regret. Stimulating gluten's texture and flavor is another than spicing the scene. Rosenberg is currently inventing someone making gluten-free fresh bread. The bright are "interesting," she says, "as long as they're interested with peanut butter."

The subject to duplicate food that tastes good because of gluten has created a "gluten-free" leisure universe. Whole Foods has a dedicated gluten-free bakery and is designing new stores with gluten-free aisles. Granola Mills created gluten-free Rice Krispies and gluten-free donut mixes under its brand Craveable. Genetically modified gluten-free wheat is currently in development as French bakers take into the scene. Which means there'll be plenty to dash out at the gluten-sensitive holiday table. ■



TODAY'S SPECIAL

BACON-FLAVORED ENVELOPES
J&P's Foods has already made a name for itself, and become a million-dollar company by selling bacon-flavored salt,再说 once (baconized) crisps, paper. Now, the Atlanta-based company is creating paper mail and paper products with—you guessed it—bacon-flavored envelopes. According to the owners, "Minimailers," which aren't made with real bacon and are even wheat-free certified, taste "stinkin' good."

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JOHN ESTACIO, one of three winners of the \$75,000 award, writes bright and joyful music that is popular with orchestra musicians.

Definitely not a one-night stand

The National Arts Centre Orchestra makes a huge commitment to three Canadian composers

BY PAUL WEILS • There is a little too much of the one-night stand in Canadian orchestral music. An orchestra lets its eyes at a self-respecting composer,色情地盯着他, and then enough the composer underhears her parting company offer a quickie. What the National Arts Centre Orchestra is seeking to do is settle down for an honest long-term commitment. Sure, it's with three composers at once, but what can we say, artists are weird.

This week in Ottawa, the NAC announced its second round of commission awards for Canadian composers. The sum's a bit puny—the NAC Award—but the numbers make up for it: three composers have been awarded \$75,000 each to write three compositions, work with the orchestra for five years, and teach younger composers at the centre's Summer Music Institute. That load of money for their kind of commitment is rare. The three recipients are Peter Paul Koprowski, 61, who teaches at the University of Western Ontario in London; Alan Sokolovic, 41, of Montreal, and John Estacio, 45, of Edmonton.

"We're hoping they'll be able to create really significant work," says Christopher Deacon, the NAC's managing director. He noted the words are aimed at mid-career composers who have already built a reputation but should, in theory, have their best work ahead. "We're not interested in cranking more 13-minute Canadian pieces."

That's an aside joke. Canadian composers already get their music performed fairly often, but usually more than once or twice for a given piece, and almost never are they invited to write something more elaborate than a brief intermission before the Chopin concerto and the Beethoven symphony.

But the NAC has already shown that these

commissions can bear fruit: last round of NAC Award recipients included the Toronto composer Gary Kulesha. He wrote his opera *Luring Thirst* (inspired for the NACO), and it has since been performed, deservedly, by orchestras in Halifax, Calgary, Vancouver, and elsewhere.

Deacon is disarmingly frank in admitting that the NAC, which is generously step-parented to serve as a homegrown for the performing arts, hasn't been doing enough to promote Canadian music before a broad and the composer awards in 2002. "We've righted the ship a little bit," he said. "Our record in the last few years is more definable."

Still, even among Canadians who subscribe to orchestra performances, few could name a Canadian composer or know one off their parents' for many years. Canadian composers wrote very little that could reasonably be hammed. It's perhaps significant that Deacon mentions Estacio as the guy whose work the NACO's own musicians seem to enjoy playing. The Edmon tonist's music is bright and joyful, almost popular. He is already the most frequently performed Canadian composer now writing.

"It's true, no one in Canada has written *Grieg's Third Symphony*," Deacon says, naming a meaningful piece by a Polish minimalist that has achieved a weird pop-cultural status since it was used in the soundtrack for more than 13-minute Canadian pieces."

That's an aside joke. Canadian composers already get their music performed fairly often, but usually more than once or twice for a given piece, and almost never are they invited to write something more elaborate than a brief intermission before the Chopin concerto and the Beethoven symphony.

RIBHANNA...HAS SOMETHING TO SAY

We open up a window here / And it part the level of us / And new thoughts, pictures and white curtains / Are all that's left at the scene of a crime / Of a cold case love / Should've investigated / But love blinded eyes / Caught me red / And then I tried to cover it / But your love won't let her keep you close to her / Listen to me now / I told my boss / Of this world's love here —Cardi B, Love, there has been album Above It

Dustin Yellin's 1991 film *Pinkerton*. "But I think it's like [Canadian] yesterday. Fifty years ago, people were saying, 'Castell, go where?'"

To its credit, while lagging for whatever the musical equivalent of Mordred or Richthofen respectively, the NAC can't bring a bunch of idiosyncratic studio composers. Koprowski, whose long CV stretches the NAC's mid-career definition, favours a dark, apocalyptic language, but his music has the force of conviction. Sokolovic has a typically established when the sun comes down her evident talent, despite fruitful collaboration with Kurt Nogueira and the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal.

Both Koprowski and Sokolovic moved to Canada in their 20s. Koprowski from Communist Poland, Sokolovic from the short-lived remains of Yugoslavia. "This is now our reality," Sokolovic said in an interview. "It shows how Canada is helping people to start a new life."

There was no formal jury for choosing the composers, but the highest hurdle they will face is the approval of Pinhas Zukerman, the NACO's music director, a Master and Bachelor's man if ever there was one. People who think the conductor a bloodhound "need to expand their perceptions of what he's doing," Deacon insists, while adding that "Pinhas has been a very funny collaborator, or a quirky collaborator. His attitude has been, 'We, but let's deal with people who are doing really important, significant stuff. I'm not gonna look at their pieces!'" *

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A RECENT edition of Britain's *Daily Mail* reported that one of the world's most famous children's toys has been given a make-over.

What signal does Barbie's burka send?

Women forbidden by law from feeling sunlight—hey, that's a positive message for young girls



MARK STEYN

The other day, George Clooney passed on to his readers a characteristically shrewd observation gleaned from the life of his pal George Clooney: "No one likes to think of himself as a coward," wrote Jason. "People prefer to think they end up yielding to what the servants demand, not because it's safer or more convenient, but because it's the right thing." Successful men are persuading themselves that if they do the servant's bidding, it's not because they're terrified—but because they're socially concerned.

This is true. Avoiding terror is exhausting. It's easier to appear it, but, for the sake of your self-esteem, you have to tell yourself you're appearing it in the cause of some or other variant of "social justice." Obviously, it's unfortunate that "Coward" gets invited for plotting to murder the artists and publishers of the *Daesh* (Muslim) and cartoons, but that's all the more reason to be even more accommodationist of the various "honor cultures" running about the periphery of Islamophobes throughout Western society. Eat.

Yet this psychology also applies to broader challenges. By way of example, take a fluffy feature from a recent issue of Britain's *Daily Mail*: "It's Barbie in burkas," read the headline. Yes, as part of her 90th anniversary celebrations, "one of the world's most famous children's toys, Barbie, has been given a makeover." And, in an attractive photo shoot, there was Barbie's "traditional islamic dress," wearing full-head-to-toe beige and red burkas. At least, I'm assuming it was Barbie. It began with a naked version—Sty

lucy there for all to see!—then the letter box-like set of 12 that morning.

But it's not a bigger Barbie line, Argus illus, wunderlich. "Bring on, Barbie doll," she said. "I think that is a great idea. I think it is really important for girls, wherever they are from, they should have the opportunity to play with a Barbie that they feel represents them."

Well, Barbara? \$9. And at an age when Kate Coughlin—Caucasian American—all that desperation network news ratings ladies do, it being photographed all afternoon on the hen-back at the Christmas party party, there it's perhaps something to be had for believably marshalling your 76-mil plastic butt. Or as the Canadian Blogger Closet Conservative put it: "Great news: that bitch Barbie has finally inverted!" And there's no need for expensive soaps, sans like Soaps or can or off," added Tim Blair of *Sunday's Daily Telegraph*, "because Barbie is a big isn't allowed to leave her home unless accompanied by a male relative (Mullah Karr, say) separately."

Myself? I'm not so sure about that. Given the long time numbers, Kell'll be happy not to find herself crushed under one of those walls the Taliban put up for their sadistic rehabilitation program. You'll be glad to know the dolls are anatomically accurate. Barbie Barbie has no clitoris, wait, just like Muslim Asia on the evening of Sept. 11, Kell's genital area is fully depicted.

But we mustn't get carried away in the meantime. The other day, I was watching, as one does, a German-language *Die Linse* documentary. It began with a naked woman—Sty

behavior as opposed to a gobbling gulfie! Then, her unclenched gig would earn her death sentence, if she were lucky, and, if she weren't, sexual death.

Still, Barbie Barbie and Fatima's Secret are names and peripheral. What about the to collect most powerful men in the world? "The U.S. government has gone to court to protect the religious women and girls who will be the first, and to punish those who would dare it," President Obama said his audience in Care earlier this year. "I respect the view of some in the West that a woman who chooses to cover her face is somehow less equal."

My oh my, he's a people in coverage, isn't he? It's that there have been occasional friction over, say, the refusal of Muslim women to reveal their faces for their drivers'



Jennette-Salmaana Farahani, for example, used the name of Florida over that "right." But the real issue in the Western world is "the right of women and girls" not "to wear the hijab." A couple of weeks ago in Arizona, a young woman called Noor Alishti was finally cut over by her father in his Jing Chikara for becoming "too Westernized" if there were a Matthes Sheepdog-style gay graduation every five months, liberal culture rats would be going bananas about the "state of love" in America. But you can run over your daughter, disown your wife, drown three teenage girls and a polygamous spouse (no not merely the most local recent examples of North American "honor killings"), and nobody cares. Certainly, sheesh no danger of Barack Obama ever standing up for the likes of poor Man Alishti to a roomful of Afghans. When it comes to red hair colors, as opposed to his entirely arbitrary epidemic, the president of the United States has smaller issues than Ken

If you follow the Grand Concourse in favor of the classes, you may have noticed that the poster girl for the leftist "social justice" campaign in Muslim women, "Deep Pains for a Poverty-Free Ontario" in the ring cry, and race to it in a high-clad lady speaking up and spotlighting us. It's sounding as do with the cost of postsecondary education, which, like everything else in Canada, it appears to be. "Free" is a curious word choice as an emblem for educational access; after all, one of the most easily discernible features of societies that adopt Islamic dress is how ignorant they are. In Afghanistan under the Taliban, girls were forbidden by law to attend school—a, not just first-year-half-a-decade-on-Ottawa-syndromes "post secondary" education, but kindergarten and Grade 1. In Pakistan, 60 per cent of women are illiterate. According to the UN's 2002 *Adult Development Report*, half of all women in the Arab world cannot read. And even in Canada, the ability of the women on the railway to access that

post-secondary education depends not on the "free" bar on her letter of, if she's already been married off to her 16-year-old cousin back in Mirpur, her husband. The Sodath even lacrimate matron, Kate McMillan summed up the point that "McGregor of women—it's the new normal."

"Traditional Islamic dress" is a code word, like "folk" or "natural" Mother Nature who attended university in the fifth, sixties or seventies—back when they assumed history was moving their way and a covered woman was mainly a local variant of the Islamic harem, snatching old and selected you saw in ascetic villages. Now you see them in the heart of the megapolis and I don't mean Beirut or Abu Dhabi or much Paris or Brussels. If you manage to be so wild as to stand, say, Zaria, heart town of the law "invasion" Abu Musab Zarqawi, and look 20 per cent of the mosque in the eye, and even be rewarded with a friendly smile every so often, and that to Ayman al-Zawahiri and be confronted by one masked face after another while walking down Whitehead Road in the first mad. The burqa, the niqab and the hijab are not fashion statements but explicitly political ones, and what they symbolize is a Western concern in self-aggression.

That "Drop Free" campaign would never dream of dressing up its poster girl in June Cleaver, Diana Rigg or any other conventional icon in tourism and goods. Golly, that would offend all sorts of dressing-up girls to today's libidinous female, wouldn't it? What kind of Barbie's her scolding? That, in Taliban-controlled Afghanistan, women are forbidden by law from looking anywhere on their face? Hey, there's a positive message for young girls.

Philip Longman is a diagnostic who's widely regarded as the anti-thesis of the likes we're creating elsewhere here. Yet his most famous essay on the world currently takes shape in the *Return of Patriarchy*. Don't worry, it's not the bad kind of patriarchy. "Don't worry, it's not the bad kind of patriarchy."

MACLEANS BESTSELLERS

COMPILED BY BRADEN GRIEVE

Fiction

1 THE BISHOP'S MAN	by Edie Baskin (Hyper)	2,800
2 THE GOLDEN PRINCE	by Michael Morpurgo (Hyper)	2,000
3 EQUINE	by Michael Crummey (Hyper)	4,600
4 THE LOVED SHIPWRECK	by Dan Balow (Hyper)	3,000
5 TOO MUCH HAPINESS	by Alice Munro (Hyper)	1,040
6 THE ORIGINAL OF LAURA	by Michael O'Leary (Hyper)	70
7 LAST IN LINE IN TWISTED RIVER	by Linda Lee (Hyper)	4,600
8 THE LADY	by Evelyn O'Kelly (Hyper)	8,000
9 THE YEAR OF THE FLOOD	by Margaret Atwood (Hyper)	16,000
10 THE GIRL WHO PLAYED WITH FIRE	by Stieg Larsson (Hyper)	1,040

Non-fiction

1 JUST WATCH ME!	by John Englekirk	2,800
2 SUPERFEDERICA	by Eric Schlosser and Naomi Klein (Hyper)	4,600
3 A SOLDIER FIRST	by Rick Hillier	1,040
4 WHAT THIS DOG SAID	by Michael Tolstoy	8,000
5 THE GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH	by Richard Dawkins (Hyper)	6,070
6 D-E-R-Y	by Anthony de Mello	8,130
7 QUEEN ELIZABETH THE GREEN MOTHER	by William Shirer	2,140
8 L-U-M NIGHTSKY	by Jason Urquhart	9,120
9 THE LOST NATION	by David R. Wilcock	18,130
10 THE CASE FOR GOD	by Kenneth Armstrong	8,040

LAST WEEK'S NEWEST IN LISTS

ON THE WEB: For book reviews, feature articles, interviews and recommended reading by contributors, check out our new [Books Page](http://books.macleans.ca/books) at macleans.ca/books.

paraphys of zygomatics. Who's groovy mucks muck—local—which, presumably, while liberal progressives are so eager to emphasize that they figure it can just be confined to the likes of Noor Alishti, but I doubt it. I've mentioned previously a luno pal of mine, non-Muslim, who's taken to covering herself. The certain givers of an evening in order to avoid having to be "young." She does know what that means, though. "Salahudin for Every Woman Everywhere," I

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INTERVIEWER



STEAK on my plate have a good life, I wonder naturally. They sleep in a blanket and I feel guilty, too, and then I eat.

What's a holiday without any guilt?

I feel guilty that I paid too much for my coffee. And I feel guilty I didn't pay enough.



I feel guilty I feel guilty about eating this steak. Did the cow have a good life? Did it experience scenes of Wendy cow adventures? When the time comes, I hope the farmer greatly regrets his and she's separated. "There, there," I say. *Sorry, can I pay extra to make this happen? I can see the sticker now: "Organic, pasture fed, locally sourced."*

I feel guilty about sugar in general. I see people in these made-on-the-highway and I feel guilty. I see people in a blanket and I feel guilty, and then hungry, and then guilty for feeling hungry. I see a plate of food and I feel guilty that we didn't let the little baby calf grow up to be a cow. We have to feel sorry and guilty, as an entire民族.

I also feel guilty I didn't get the strip loin.

The steaks never disappears. I feel guilty about always changing. I feel guilty that I may not be taking it seriously enough, so that I can't go to officially exclude wild salmon. I also feel guilty that I may be taking it so seriously—and that the whole thing is just about a prank designed by scientists to get back at the people who invented them in high school, by making them socially unacceptable.

I feel guilty about my dishwasher tablets. They're not the ones that are "green." They're the ones that are "actually weak."

I feel guilty when I look at the news. Then again, I feel guilty that I read the news fat-free on the internet. And now I feel guilty for having lied about being the news when really I was naked ladies.

I feel guilty when I pick up the mail and see that charities have been reduced to put

reading 1,200 words on Alitalia made me feel sleepy.

I feel guilty about taking my kids to McDonald's. The food is loaded with salt and fat. Plus we usually sit in the drive-through for a good 15 minutes. Sure, the kids and the car, that's a lot of emissions.

I feel guilty when I hang up the phone on telemarketers I know they're just trying to do their job. That's why I cut off a kid if I consider calling them to tell all to be my job.

I feel guilty that the drivers we make don't take five hours to cook or include homegrown spaghetti nests without heat exposed to kernels, herbicides or local poison.

I feel guilty about my coffee if that guilts you now. I may have paid too much for it. And I feel guilty that I might not have paid enough for it. Who is to trust? Did the farmer really get a fair deal? Does anyone have the home number of Kitee May so I can get some coffee on that?

I feel guilty about writing all those jokes about Kitee May being fat. Give me the opportunity to make amends for all those jokes about Kitee May being fat and I'll be on it like Kitee May on a battlefield.

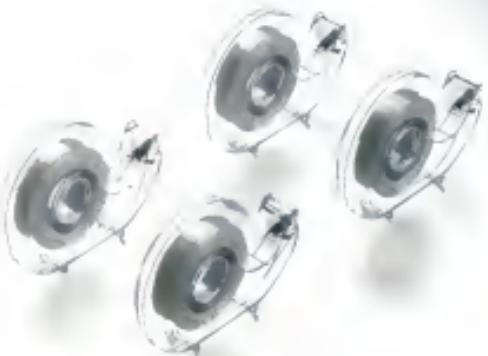
I feel guilty for not doing enough to save the whales, the octopus, the polar bears, the polar ice caps, the film version of *The Polar Express*, the penguins, orphans, orphaned penguins, the rain forest, the other rain forests, the children, Russia, Mars, the earth, the wilderness, the vinyl LP, the queen, and the last duster of Best E. King.

But most of the time, I feel guilty about feeling so guilty. The problem is that it's easy to feel bad about what we do. And I always do what's easy.

I feel guilty about that. ■

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NEWSMAKERS 2009

**Winners, losers, exits, feuds,
comebacks and more**

Section by Dianna Symonds,
Sarmishta Subramanian & Patricia Treble





THE CELEBS-IN-CHIEF

No one said it would be easy. True, the commander-in-chief began the year as the celebrity-in-chief Barack Obama, accompanied by his wife, Michelle, had just hung up in Washington with a record-breaking inauguration that drew almost two million cheering supporters to the U.S. capital and scores of star-studded inaugural balls ushering in a new era in America. The first African-American President had won by the largest popular vote margin in 20 years; his approval rating sat at 79 per cent. But within months the honeymoon had ended and today his approval is slipping below 50 per cent—reflecting a deeply divided nation and a polar

ized electorate struggling with mounting job losses and public debt, and dubious as to whether the new guy can deliver.

It didn't help that Obama's policies often made a worldwide economic crisis. He arrived with a raft of promises to overhaul health care, propose climate-change legislation, cut wind down the war in Iraq, reduce the prison at Guantánamo Bay, and reduce the deficit, just the starters. Most of that agenda remains bogged down by Republican opposition and debate within the Democratic ranks—mostly about the growing role of the federal government in Americans' life and death. And today his approval is slipping below 50 per cent—reflecting a deeply divided nation and a polar

ized electorate struggling with mounting job losses and public debt, and dubious as to whether the new guy can deliver.

On Afghanistan, for example, where he campaigned on scaling back U.S. military operations from the unpopular war in Iraq, Obama has remained mired in a months-long decision-making process that at first appeared academic, but eventually was just indecisive. Public support for the war eroded and

PHOTOGRAPH BY JEFFREY D. LINDNER, STYLING BY KATHRYN MCGOWAN, HAIR AND MAKEUP BY KATIE SAWYER

those who were “with us or against us,” and left it to his secretary of defense, Robert Gates, to make a decision. Obama needs to reassess a specific plan—an “all China has had tried and failed” do—he set down a few broad principles and asked lawmakers to craft their own. Months of nameless chaos followed, ending in disastrous Democratic ranks on such fundamental issues as whether there should be a government-run alternative to private insurance. A buckish foreign policy has thrown the whole effort into disarray. Meanwhile, other issues, such as climate change, largely

sidelined either. The \$787-billion stimulus package he signed into law March 9 didn't draw a single Republican vote in the House. And his otherwise-enthusiastic congressional Democrats have disappointed. While Obama is welcomed by hoards of crowds on his foreign trips or when a Nobel Prize has gone to him for his commitment to nuclear non-proliferation, international diplomacy, he has made limited headway on issues that are U.S. foreign policy nuclear programs in North Korea and Iran, Middle East peace, the lopsided trade relationship with China, and climate change.

The light touch some have seen as progressive ideas have been seen as wasted opportunity to take back control advantage of Democratic majorities in Congress. Obama's “new politics” of bipartisanship hasn't quite risen to the campaign trial, she was surrounded by some of her daughters, even mimicking they make their own beds, while occasionally making over-size bows for photo-ops. Her approach has paid off, her popularity, hovering at about 60 per cent, exceeds that of the President and of Congress.

Will this rub off on her husband? Democrats hope so. In fact, challenging Michelle's tenacity to the public mood may not be a bad play for Obama. With mid-term elections looming next November, and the crucial battle of independent voters coming in the Super Tuesday, this evening's Democratic contest of Congress, the President may want to clean some face on his schedule for the new year. Perhaps it's time for another date night. ■

—Lisa Ch. Savage



REDDING, SASHA, MICHELLE AND MALIA OBAMA

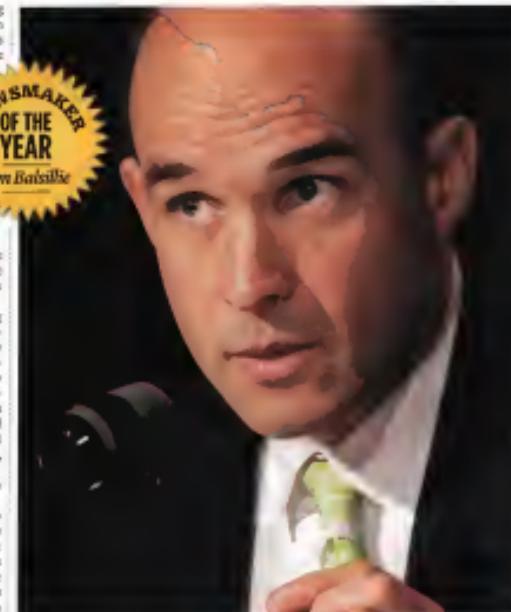
THE CONTENDER

WITH all the headline-grabbing legal jousting involved in Jim Balsillie's bid to buy the NHL's Phoenix Coyotes and move the team to Canada, it was easy to forget that this was merely a side project for the billionaire from Waterloo, Ont. Balsillie's day job, after all, is running what is arguably the most successful and important high-tech company ever to emerge in Canada: Research In Motion.

That Balsillie found the time to try and crack the thorny case of NHL owners by placing the Coyotes from bankruptcy protection—an attempt to bring a second NHL team to Canada—was a rare but welcome display of grit and determination. The headstrong Balsillie was eventually stymied by the NHL, but to millions of Canadian hockey fans who feel the league abandoned them when it sought to expand the game south of the border, he achieved near godlike status. Or the closest thing to it in this hockey-mad country.

Still, Balsillie's hockey scrap coincided with a transformative year at RIM. Competition against RIM's BlackBerry smart phones from the likes of Apple's iPhone and Google's Android phones has forced up (Apple, which has beaten the market last year three years, is on pace to match RIM's sales by 2012, according to a recent report by Gartner.) RIM's stock price has been sagging, prompting the company to announce it will buy back US\$1.2 billion worth of shares in a show of confidence. Analysts are wondering if the company's days of market dominance are numbered. Balsillie showed a lot of determination in fighting for a hockey team. He's going to have to show plenty more as he fights to keep RIM an up-and-up giant.

There are signs he's taking



**NEWSMAKER
OF THE
YEAR**

Jim Balsillie

some of that hockey fight over to the cellphone business. Last month, he flew to San Francisco to meet his rival, Steve Jobs, to promote RIM's lineup. Asked by a reporter if he thinks it is now caught playing some catch-up, he went on the offense: "We changed the world today in many ways nobody ever, ever has even possibly declared that same of possibility—and you think that is a catch-up? I'm shocked."

Some industry watchers have suggested RIM would make a

good takeover target for a company like Microsoft. That would seem unlikely, and something Balsillie and co-CEO Mike Lazaridis would fight tooth and nail. Balsillie always resisted following the revenue route for Canadian high-tech firms, opting to a bigger American company or shipping off to Silicon Valley. RIM, in fact, continues to almost single-handedly prop up the tech industry here. "Why are they here and devoting time to making Canada succeed?" asks Ken Coates, a professor at the University of Waterloo. It's not for

—Colin Campbell



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INVISIBLE WOMAN

She has quietly blazed trails for the past four years as Germany's first female chancellor and as the first to fall from the former Communist East. She's the "most powerful woman in the world," according to Forbes, and, at 60, she's plotting ways to emerge as the de facto leader of the European Union.

Outsiders of Germany, however, there's been scant interest in Angela Merkel, the earnest, apple-cheeked 59-year-old leader of the once-right Christian Democratic Union (CDU)—but for when she brushed off former president Bush's botched job at the 2001 G8 summit or showed off impressive décolletage in Norway in 2006. "Merkel's Weapons of Mass Destruction" crowed the British tabloid *Daily Mail*.

Her election to number-one person-in-charge in September barely

wholly appears in public.*

Clearly it's a winning formula for the female politicians at last: Merkel is moving her beribboned mousers, so judiciously bejeweled in red, gold, and green, to judge the most daring overalls that greet her additive to a joint meeting of U.S. Congress in November. She pressed for an agreement on global warming and stressed the need to break down even more walls, a reference to the 20th anniversary of the Berlin Wall's fall in the autumn. Her husband, chemist professor Joachim Sauer, is as publicity shy as he's known in Germany as the "Man from the Open." Since his death by heart attack in 2002, she's cited his "zero charisma, zero glamour, beige trousers, and a spouse

as united, everybody wins."

Merkel's resilience is born in the man moment of a year that has seen older women reveal yet expanded "now" factor to a surprised audience. Senator Susan Boyle, whose talent was greeted with the shock one would rightly associate with the arrival of a chimp riding T-38s. The documentary *The September Issue* pulled back the curtain at *Vogue* to show the brilliant reorchestrations of its boldly innovative creative director, the 68-year-old Anna Wintour, who's also been accused of prioritizing Julia Child in having a far more vibrant sex life than the younger pretenders.

But in a year that saw an irresistible woman take the spot-on, no one more than Merkel, whose personal history mirrors national aspirations

Born in West Germany, she was raised in the country's East. She knew a deprivation regime with privilege due to her father's position as a Lutheran pastor. The family had two cars—neither of a place where people could wait decades for one—and their library was packed with Western books, banished to east Berlin. A brilliant student, she studied physics at the University of Leipzig, financing her education as a cocktail waitress. In 1977, she married fellow-student Ulrich-Michael (she divorced him in 1983 and married Sauer in 1986). After earning a Ph.D. in 1976, she took a job as a quantum chemist in East Berlin.

Merkel's political life began quietly: swept up in Germany's budding democracy movement, she joined the CDU in 1990, two months before Germany's reunification. Merkel rose in the ranks quickly but steadily, mentored by newly elected chancellor Helmut Kohl, who referred to her as "the girl" and appointed her women and youth minister in 1991, and environment minister in 1994. When a child food scandal rocked the party in 1999, Merkel alone had the courage to tell Kohl to quit. The next year, she succeeded him in the CDU's few female leaders.

In 2005 she emerged as chairwoman after a national convention yielded a fractured coalition between the CDU, mainist party, the Christian Social Union, and the center-left Social Democrats. Merkel kept together, bending to the left when required: she ditched free-market reforms, imposed a minimum wage in some sectors, and endorsed a huge fiscal stimulus. She also pulled the country out of recession with a stringent economic program the compared to that of a "Swimmer housewife."

Merkel's policy of apoliceocracy have proven efficacious. "What, and whence, does Angela Merkel stand?" the daily *Frankfurter Zeitung* asked in an analysis of her "mysterious" character during the 2009 election. "Nobody knows. And that is the secret to her success."

Her conversational style put on and to comparisons to former British PM Margaret Thatcher. If anything, she's even more than iron. When asked "Are you tough?" during the 2009 election, she deflected the question by saying, "Let's just say I'm persistent." Her reluctance to contribute to the extroversion of journalists flatly locator her the derivative nickname "Matressen-Nost." When national iconoclasts are welcome, she'll step on big toes: she fought off EU emissions caps on behalf of German industry; she has played tough with the U.S. through assertiveness on spending what she views as professor Gerhard Schröder's amateur break with Washington over the Iraq war; she appears unassumingly Obama's charm. She denied his request to speak in front of the Bundestag. During the 2008 presidential bid, saying a was not an appropriate campaign slogan. She's challenged his handling of the economic

crisis. Even his recent praise of Germany as "the cornerstone for an extraordinarily strong European Union" didn't change her—the word the Berlin Wall anniversary to nominate the U.S. as a major champion in its interests through international institutions.

On the world stage, Merkel has racked up an impressive series of policy coups, among them a hard-fought compromise on the EU budget in 2007 and a climate deal that helped forge a new global warming pact on behalf of EU members—she did this through tough with the U.S. through assertiveness on spending what she views as professor Gerhard Schröder's amateur break with Washington over the Iraq war; she appears unassumingly Obama's charm. She denied his request to speak in front of the Bundestag. During the 2008 presidential bid, saying a was not an appropriate campaign slogan. She's challenged his handling of the economic

crisis. Even his recent praise of Germany as "the cornerstone for an extraordinarily strong European Union" didn't change her—the word the Berlin Wall anniversary to nominate the U.S. as a major champion in its interests through international institutions.

But she did make a clear bid to appeal to female voters during the last election, by joking about her dowdy image in a TV ad: "I'll learn something new every day," she said. "Like how important a bikini can be," a reference to updating heraverse bowl-cut to a saucier, blonder cut. Ever the pragmatist, Merkel's willing to do anything that advances her wishes.

One concern may be that she's failed to warm to Merkel in her government, a notion of whom is frustrated by her avoidance of

—Anne Karpf

LOST BOY, FOREVER

Even more startling than the news of his death was its impact. Not since Diana had celebrity's sudden passing sent such a jolt—and so many shock waves around the world. Michael Jackson's career had been in the doldrums for over a decade. His last passion, it seemed by allegations of child molestation, had face-negatively cast him as a sex offender, his body worn on guardrails, his finances in tatters. Although his fans had remained fiercely loyal, snapping up tickets for a sold-out come-back tour that would never take place, throughout the world the King of Pop had become a sad freak—a literary pun shadow of the mischievous child who once moon-walked into our hearts. But after Jackson's death on June 25, 2009, a meteoric resurgence began to take place.

As the media became consumed with comparing his memory, parsing his greatness and exploring the riddle of his death, it soon became clear that this celebrity death was shaping up to be an event on a par with the loss of Marilyn Monroe and Elvis Presley. In death, the cultural scales were instantly tipped: Jackson's iconic status would trump the human frailties. The man once accused of being a pedophile and predator was now seen as a victim, possibly a victim of murder by lethal injection, perhaps even the target of a conspiracy. The disturbing pathology of Jackson's personality—the enigma of the line boy ingrained in a man's body—only enriched the myth. As a showbiz prodigy never trying to reclaim the Neverland of his stolen childhood, he acquired tragic nobility. Like Elton, Madonna and Diana, here was another martyr to celebrity. Jackson had always dressed as if undercoating for eternity. And in the months that followed, pieces of him would be auctioned off like fine-edged art, from his diamond-encrusted socks to the white glove he wore in the 1980 Motown TV special



which is considered the "Holy grail" of MJ memorabilia.

As a Black man who seemed born on a mission, his race and likeable gender, Jackson's shape-shifting was mocked when he was alive. In death it only confirmed his cultural importance. Just as Bob Dylan and Bruce Springsteen had pioneered the merger and music of black R&B to create their burlesque empires of rock 'n' roll, Jackson merged black music with white pop, barbershop and otherwise. He seemed intent on transforming himself as an alien creature, as if he only exists truly thus readily mastered by being extraterrestrial. With "Thriller," the monster ruler that broke racial barriers and virtually invented MTV, he tried on a ghoulish identity that would follow him to the grave.

Had he lived to perform the tour, wouldn't he've wouldn't have been a concert movie, but it would have shown a darker par-

former? The rehearsal footage reveals a softer, more human side of Michael Jackson. Though the film is more hagiography than documentary, it offers a glimmer of vulnerability, and of the creative soul behind the On-the-line armrest of the generous Jackson concert series as an adult, quietly focused and firmly in command. Thomson lends credence to what Elizabeth Taylor once told Oprah Winfrey: that Jackson was "highly intelligent, shrewd, intuitive." There's a lovely scene in which Jackson is trying to hold himself back: "Don't make me sing out," he pleads. "I gotta save my voice." It's a moment freighted with sadness in a movie that reduces a meteoric rise by reminding us that he was only an angel. ■

Brian D. Johnson

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**NEWSMAKER
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PATIENT ZERO

In started with Edgar "Patient Zero" Hernandez, the five-year-old boy in rural Mexico who caught the first confirmed case of H1N1 last March. He came home from school with a fever and headache. After a few days, and lots of consoling by mom, Hernandez recovered. But for thousands of others worldwide, H1N1 has been lethal, including here in Canada, where casualties have included: 1) a year-old boy who, during his holiday playdate with his father's twin sister, a birth-year-old Yvonne Warner, who loved figure skating and Miss Cyndi, 2) an 18-year-old, Sébastien Fagard, a popular chemistry prof with a growing family. "Buying your own kids is the most horrific thing for any parent of being," said Paul Prestagle, Yvonne's dad. "There is no plan, no answer, nothing to guide you."

In a matter of months, H1N1 has become the defining public health event of the decade, arguably causing more confusion, fear and heartache than anything the world has seen since the 1918 Spanish Flu. Why? Because our authorities could only wait for a medical intervention to spare 50 million people from death, never ensuring

that today we, fortunately, arrived with a preventive weapon—the pandemic flu shot. "The vaccine," says Gregory Hartl of the World Health Organization, "is the single most important tool we have against influenza."

Having the coolant knowing how to best use it isn't separate, though. As the archetypal moment in the H1N1 vaccine era, the big dilemma this pandemic has been whether or not to actually get the shot. And, if so, when and how. Proponents—or lack thereof—have been a running theme.

Health authorities, initially uncertain of just how virulent, headed for a deadly crisis. So many scrambled to decide the vaccine and/or a ring-fencing goes in the lab to they could create vaccines. There was debate about whether to administer one dose or two, and who should get immunized. In Canada, federal and provincial governments developed their pandemic plans, only to realize that even these detailed documents couldn't account for the logistics of vaccinating 35 million people almost at once.

Then the flu also brought to the fore a fierce antivaccine sentiment that the anti-vaccine movement

is based on political gaming and fear rather than science. They say we are increasingly faced with the rare worst-case scenarios that may result from getting the shot rather than the reality of how far we've come in treating diseases, including the flu. Discover magazine blogger Chris Mooney tries to voice skepticism as "a late modern decadence" that people can indulge in because, really, they haven't been killed off by measles, mumps or polio—which have been seemingly obliterated in most places by mass inoculation.

Even Canada's chief public officer of health, Dr. David Butler-Jones, has publicly squared off with vaccine deniers, warning that the odds of bad reactions to the H1N1 shot are less than 0.001 per cent, and that the benefits of getting it "outweigh any theoretical risk." Of the 6.6 million doses that had been administered across the country by mid-November, there were 36 serious adverse effects—making the pun clear that safer-than-the-usual-the vaccine. One elderly person died after getting immunized, but it's unclear if that was due to an underlying condition or the vaccine.

As of late November, H1N1 has killed 169 Canadians, and 6,190 others worldwide, though the WHO says that estimate is low because many places have stopped tracking and reporting cases. More than half a billion people across 206 countries or territories have been sick, and the flu has attacked an unlikely group: the young and healthy. As happened with the 1918 virus, most experts suggest that a "third wave" of H1N1 may hit this winter (the first wave was last spring, the second that fall), and that it'll probably bring future seasonal flus—all of which means this virus won't be out of the news soon.

Before Hernandez was confirmed as having H1N1, many in his village were sick. His father said to his mother, "We can't be afraid of what might or might not happen." But it's not surprising if you are. —Cathy Galkin



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ENTRANCES

Victoria's Secret

No longer will underwear aficionados have to gaze longingly south of the border. Victoria's Secret, the lingerie chain synonymous with romance, glamour and Heidi Klum, is set to launch its first Canadian store in the new year. For those who can't wait, little sister store Victoria's Secret Plus, based on a variety size girls, opened a few Canadian outlets last year.

Around the world

around people. David and Victoria Beckham have accepted an offer, reportedly at a cost of over \$12,000 each. Harry Potter actor Rupert Grint has one, too.

Chinese curling team

Who'll won curling gold at Vancouver in 2010? Chen, which just began its curling program in 2000, could be a real contender. In March, the Chinese team defeated Sweden, Olympic champions in 2006, to win the Women's Curling Championship.

Josephin 'Shorty' Guimard

This year saw an unusual addition to *Forbes* magazine's list of the world's wealthiest people. Alongside Bill Gates and Warren Buffett was Quebec "Shorty" Guimard, a 16-month-old girl. With an estimated net worth of \$3.6 billion, Guimard health the fine

Winnie the Pooh has a new friend: Lorrie the Oster, who appears in the first authorized Pooh sequel, *Return to the Hundred Acre Wood*. Author Tasha Tudor describes Lorrie as an untypical oster who's "such a delight for everyone." Illustrated by Mark Burgess, who brought Paddington Bear to life, she's a graceful and rare female addition to Pooh's crew.

Nova Scotia's first NDP government

Jane's vote was the province get its first-ever NDP government after a decade of Progressive Conservative rule. The NDP received the Tories, who were reduced to third-party status. Even Leader Darryl Dexter was surprised: "Who would believe that NDP might would cover Nova Scotia?" he said after the win.

Lottie the Otter

Sixty years after A. A. Milne's beloved books were published,

currents known as Andi, short for Antipodesian rambler, who is about 14 million years old, an adult female, she likely stood about four feet tall and weighed 220 lbs. With her son the son of a shaggy, Andi could climb trees and walked upright on two legs.

All Franklin

Franklin was once better known

for his name as a field goal

star. Statley on Saturday Night Live. This year, he left the lamplight to become Minnesota's new Democratic senator. Declining the dinner after a lengthy recess and legal battle against his Republican rival, Franken instead turned up in Washington with undergarments: "I'm ready to get to work, thank you."

Sharon As-Is-ah-ah

At 14, Canada's roughly half the nation's population is under 25. Alejo, a hereditary chief of Vancouver Island's Ahousaht First Nation,

TAPE, ship that docked off B.C.; clockwise from top left: JACOB ZUMER; Gabourey Sidibe; and SARA HARRIS; in the background, singer discover this month; *Victoria's Secret* model; *House* cast members pigs; Lorrie and Camille

Gabourey Sidibe

Most of Hollywood's leading ladies might be, but Gabourey Sidibe, who stars in the film *Precious*, is just the opposite, reportedly weighing more than 300 lbs. But that might be the least remarkable thing about her. Sidibe received massive press for her baring performance as a sexual abuse victim, a poor, illiterate teenager who is impregnated by her own father. She'll next star in *Young to the Bone* opposite Diane Kruger.

Stephanie Harper as political star

On a trip to the Arctic, Governor General Michaëlle Jean sampled a ham of a freshly slaughtered seal, making headlines around the world. Now, maybe dining at it again a few months later, Stephen Harper alone on an island, offering a public rebuke to Europe's ban on Canadian seal products. Cabinet ministers followed suit, and it has been added to the menu at Parliament Hill's exclusive restaurant, along side more robust fare like beef tenderloin and salmon.

Madly in Love

In January, Solnit, a single mom with a 12-year-old daughter, decided to scrap the, the second most votes in U.S. history. The story quickly progressed from heartwarming tale to critical question: the American Society of Reproductive Medicine ended her fertility doctor's career when he transferred at least six embryos to the 33-year-old (grande dame) would have recommended one or two. Solnit received a telegram break-up suggesting she so-called "Octomom" would appear along side fellow reality star-wreck, Jon Gosselin, in a new show, though the dad of eight claimed it is on its way.

Oliver

The high school musical comedy *Glee* is the hottest thing on TV, thanks in part to Gary Morris, a Calgarian who, when cast as Finn's dad, a dreamy football jock who can sing. He's a pioneer alongside the rest of the gang at McKinley High, including the fabulously evil cheerleading coach, Sue Sylvester, played with gusto by Jane Lynch. Once the refuge of mostly nerds, gay kids, and families of mostly nerds, gay kids, and families, *Glee* is cool.

Mr. Lethbridge Tunnel

After a decades-long impasse, Mr. Lethbridge Tunnel, owned by Canada as a terrorist organization, was defeated in that country this year in the track down that followed, among participants. Tunnels itself, including 76 who travelled to B.C. aboard a mail-order cargo ship. *Soldado* page

—Kate Lonsan



EXITS

"Glee"

Go to the light, a voice said, and, after 72 years on the air, it did. *Giving Light*, the longest-running scripted program in broadcast history, had declined to an average of just 2.2 million viewers per episode, making it the least-watched of the remaining stops so CBS executives expanded the town of Springfield and its denizens—Kurt, Rachel, Kurt and all—further.

"Wine & Roses"

A casualty of the Phoenix Coyotes' financial collapse, *Giving Light* stepped down at coach in September, even as Jim Edmonds and Gary Zimmerman competed for the team's future. Early, a chapter ever, audiences in early *Giving Light* days is still well-received some a wonder whether he'd friend the Hockey Hall of Fame induction ceremony or not. Brett Hull, Luc Robitaille and Steve Yzerman. Always the gentleman,

was the next best thing to being there. The Great Canyon threatened and verges, the giddy cost of the Rooster annual hypertension. But citing long diminished sales, Fisher-Price has napped making the songs until will continue with TV and movie-related discs). Meaning our children will no longer gain at the *Vineyard*'s enchanting version made with the pack-mailed mess of red Mar-

"De La Hoya"

Dubbed "the Golden Boy," he was a throwback to the classic Hollywood pugilist. A Mexican American raised in Inglewood, Calif., De La Hoya promised his dying mother he'd win gold in the 1992 Olympics. He did, then went on to become one of boxing's most successful pro boxers. Good-looking, good-humored and the world's popular, but he was an outlier here in America's

PHOTOGRAPH BY JEFFREY GREENBERG/WIREIMAGE.COM

Hispanic population. After his last bout in May before retirement at 36—he lost to Filipino Manny Pacquiao—De La Hoya approached his old trainer, Freddie Roach: "You were right, Freddie. I don't have it anymore."

"High School Musical" cast

Four years after its television debut in 2006, the cast of *High School Musical*—the Disney franchise that's at home in sterile Salt Lake City, Utah—is in flux—and has graduated, never to return. What to do? Replace Zac, Vanessa and Ashley with a new crew of poor-potential seniors, who will also no doubt be confused with the *Avatar*-nation-like pack of characters from, for *High School Musical 4*: East Meets West (which sounds more, but likely greater, fun).

enjoyed a herculean package that could nearly only exist in the once-battled fantasy lives of Bob and Doug McKenzie's old wives. *Reunited at St. John's* got no dinner bookings a month. But to just, Malason said, it would cut the quota of complimentary beers it allows its visitors to a monthly dozen in St. John's. Five years from now, retires Amara. Canada will get no beer at all. Current workers will see their allowances slashed to 24 dozen bottles a year. Union grievances and protests are expected to go flat.

"Ride-Along" & *"Wye Bye!"*

Once a novelty way to encourage phones to call in the New Year, Radio Canada's year-end radio variety event had in recent years devolved into an off-the-wall, satiric caricature of Québécois humour. Indeed, last year's review, which featured coaus-

sous-class clowns roasting Barack Obama and singer and child abuse survivor Natalie Imbruglia, drew tough criticism from the CRTC. *Adieu, adieu, bye bye*

"Dresden"

Berlin's 15 km of impeded 18th- and 19th-century-style landscape and its historic old town, UNESCO named Germany's Dresden Elbe Valley a UN World Heritage Site in 2004. Last summer, it took the rare step of extending the distinction—but the second time it's done so after "the Thracian of northern Europe" were given with plans to build a modern bridge in the middle of the heritage zone. Dresden had rejected a small alternative and the structure was backed by a local referendum, creating an unbridgeable gap between locals and UNESCO.

"Chinese Uighur detainees"

The espionage continues for a group of Chinese Muslims captured in Afghanistan and Pakistan after 9/11 and sent to the U.S. prison at Guantánamo Bay. Guantánamo identified as an embarrassment, the Uighurs could not be returned to China for fear of persecution, and no other big power would host them. In November, an island in the Pacific island nation of Palau, a former U.S.-run military base that will be their refuge until another country—possibly Australia—agrees to take them permanently. Meanwhile, they may live to look forward to freedom in concert, a local delicacy.

"Kathleen Schreiber"

The former arms dealer and self-styled environmental maven of mystery avoided extradition from Canada for a decade. This is the obvious horror of Brian McNamee, who describes just getting cash from Schreiber as "my second biggest mistake in life," the first being even agreeing to meet him. There's no chance they'll bump into each other at the ATM these days—the *Moscow* ousted Schreiber to Germany in August.

"Pitfalls"

Almost 10 years after Europe marred that era and close to an month after the U.S. said it would collaborate, Canada placed a partial ban on pharmaceuticals, a family of compounds, to be known as "rubber duck chemicals" for their frequent use in softening plastics in toys. The chemicals are believed to complicate the production of menopause, particularly during fetal development, when rage-pleasure levels may fluctuate.

"Medichromes"

It was the film used to capture the image of the beautiful green-eyed Afghan girl for National Geographic and the banner for the famous *Eye Spy* and that caught the mind of producer John Kennedy, sparkles fluorescent-color photography. It could only be that *Medichromes*, released 24 years ago but often touted as fine, was at issue too real and too vivid. Singer Paul Simon recognized in its bright hues a genuine entity could not keep. "Make you think all the world's a sunny day," he sang (*Digitalisraphy*), which offers a stellar lead, led to the end of its colorful optimism. ■

—Nicholas Kuhler

WINNERS



USA IN BOLT

Usain Bolt

From the surface five-pointer towers above his rivals as though his real trick is to cheat perspective—the human legger because he's already closer to the finish. At 23 he has won 21 consecutive races in one year. In August at the World Championships he broke his own records in the 100- and 200-m dashes, a repeat of his dual golds at the Beijing Games; his participation a third for Jamaica and a 4x 100-meter relay made it a hat trick.

Susanna Boylston

Sturdy, when Stephen Harper crossed a little Ranga on full, he was channelling the spirit of a feisty Scottish lady—so old and too untrained to be called a dame—whose appearance on *Audition Got Talent* cast all in the role of hidden underdogs or unpolished divas, capable of inducing a mob to train. Boylston's emerging role, with crossover crossover and crossover, has yet to eclipse that first major shock.

Sidney Crosby

Down through the second period of game seven, Crosby had himself enveloped against the boards after a hit from Detroit Red Wings forward Jordin Tootoo. Up goes the bubble into the Pittsburgh Penguins' dressing room, but is back before the night's done to lift the Stanley Cup above his head—at 31, the youngest NHL captain ever to do so, and just four years after arriving at the No. 1 selection in the draft. Nuff said.

Bernie Ecclestone

Despite an oddly nihil opening sequence—which follows Carl and Edna Ecclestone from kid to death—the snarled film Up did paragraph at the box office, making it F1's 10th consecutive film to break US\$100 million

billion. Off-camera, too, it was good to be a god! The over-60 set learned a needed worry about H1N1 due to wonderful exposure to something similar. Paul Anka wrote us to hear “I’m still in it,” a same-bed winter with Michael Jackson years ago, on the radio, and earned a man for his troubles. Willard Boyle of Bell Labs won a Nobel for physics at 88, for work just as bad 40 years ago, and McColl re-enactors Brenda Blethyn to emblaze pose for her work on memory—of St. Dunstan’s Lynn, whose WWII service Will Mett Agate we know from *Dr Strangelove*, her No. 1 in the U.K. with a greatest hits CD.

Michael Bublé

It wasn't just his new CD, *Crazy Love*, shot to No. 1 within days of its release, at 34, Bublé suddenly seemed comfortable being Bublé. The crooner had tried of being the big bad those-black-suit-and-darkshades love—the squeaky clean stagecoach didn't fit with a lady killer who likes a drink and easy will. Build your joint (to mix a phrase). Hamlets to the flutes are making noise, and fans seem to love him no less.

Japan's Democratic party

After nearly 50 years of rule by the Liberal Democratic Party, the notoriously surly Japanese voter decided in August to try something different and not a bullet for the democratic party. The India-like mind of Yukio Hatoyama PM, a recent Barack Obama-esque callida “polite earthquake,” even if it did little to fix a Japanese economy still hamstrung by a recession that took hold in the 1990s.

Lady Gaga

In the early 1990s, Bette Midler emerged from the backrooms of New York with a show whose at which the outrageous costume and sequins were as important

in the music. Step away Midler's song and sense of fun and you get Gaga, a 25-year-old Yankees gal who's sold over four million copies of her debut, *The Fame*, and 10 million digital singles. If she wins best of fly soars on her fingerails, she's got sounds refreshingly expert, longing solo from behind a piano.

Anthony Calvillo

At 37, he's a little longer than he does to be up to his second straight MVP nod. Quarterback Calvillo, a 14-year CFL vet, was also serving route Mastermind Alouettes coach to the leopard's all-marauder, and his 26 touchdown passes were tops. In July he left the 18th anniversary of his career, slinging his managerial. He comes as third intriguing and only tested-out as three-time pro in 350 attempts.

Jerry Mitchell

Even as concurring continues to put inventive journalists, Jerry Mitchell, a reporter with the Clarion Ledger in Jackson, Miss., is a wonderful anomaly. Over 20 years, he's won 14 press-critique awards, lifting bags for Kaiser in person, including Bryan De La Riva, nominated in the 1983 snifter of Melgar Events. This fall he was a \$150,000 MacArthur Foundation “genius grant,” he plans to continue his reporting.

Jim Hansen

In a series of Vanity Fair photographs featuring Hansen with his so-beautiful-in-his-Mad-Max-co-star January Jones, Anna Lisek presented a fiery-lit-ceremony whose scenes mix with ink from the Madames press. That's how his crew of 30 Rock as Tina Fey's flag, Dr Drew Band, then converted the hitbooks into impromtu. That self-deprecating take on a man so determined he's oblivious to his shortcomings led to one of two Emmy nominations—the other was for *Mad Men*.

Privacy commissioners

The social networking tax Facebook changed the way a hand le-



PHOTOGRAPH BY STEPHEN LAMBERT FOR VANITY FAIR

personal data provided by users all over the world, in part due to a report issued by federal privacy commissioners Jennifer had-dar blushing Facebook for violating Canadian privacy law. Among other things, it will make it easier to delete accounts and to choose what personal info is sent to third parties.

Beyoncé

Though released late last year, Beyoncé's video for single *Lady (Put a Ring on It)*, earned her being the sexiest heart of 2009. It was the one Kanye West felt should have been over Taylor Swift's *You Belong to Me*. It became the subject of countless YouTube bloopers, creating the first dance craze of the 21st century. Crossing beyond its January, Barack Obama enjoyed his first inauguration Ringen-Amerikay. With the grace of a ballerina giraffe, Beyoncé demonstrated her infinite self-possession.

Muammar Gadhafi

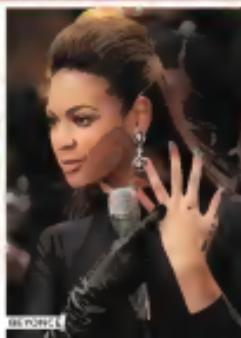
In drawing golden robes and trademark sunglasses, flanked by seven "brother kings of Africa," Gadhafi served in Tripoli's Abuqir in February to assume the leadership of the African Union. His ascendancy was not without controversy. Gadhafi waited until 2003 to measure tensions and appeared to want the leadership merely to help prop Libya from the ashes of instrumental isolation. Next stop ... maybe?

Alec Baldwin

Who said there are no second acts in American lives? Scott, now Alec Baldwin, the leading man turned—after many glorious years of successful voice mail dad, whose release *Rock of Ages* proved a comeback. This year he's earned an Emmy, scored alongside Meryl Streep in *The Iron Lady* in a movie chock full of a trophy wife with his aging ex, and was named co-host (with Steve Martin) of the 2010 Oscars. Also, grab that winning streak and start marketing Schweddy Balls—now! —Nicholas Kohler



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MR. TURNAROUND

The most terrifying test on a Wall Street ceo is to leap the night the front door is open. He has had a more strenuous challenge from which to view the plague, roundabout turn of the financial crisis than U.S. Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner. Now, with the wild ride leveling off and stability returning to the economy, the man whose hands are on both the left and right were called a "dinner" a few weeks ago is being credited with helping put the U.S. back on track. When Warren Buffett declared the financial panic over this month, he said that Geithner, with Federal Reserve chairman Ben Bernanke, deserves "high marks" for how he handled the crisis.

Of all the predictions about the fate of the global economy made during the darkest hours of the financial crisis—"There will be blood," the chairman will be gasping panicked—for thought that 250 days later we'd be where we are today America's economy is growing again, unemployment is slowing, and consumer confidence has rebounded from lows not seen in half a century. Through a barrage of stimulus spending and tough measures that forced troubled banks and homeowners into submission, Geithner ultimately succeeded in giving America some of its confidence back.

Not that you'll hear such praise from him. These days, even economists like their savings. In fact, the only thing he's ever really taken pride in over the last year is being Geithner's public persona. A lot of that has to do with his unique history. In his previous job as chair of the New York Federal Reserve, he oversaw much of the touring events that got Wall Street into trouble in the first place. Furthermore, while Geithner raised concerns about solvency in the real derivatives market, which ultimately magnified the crisis, he took few

steps to curb it. Then, when the credit crisis hit, he worked closely with the Bush administration to draft the response. He arranged for JP Morgan to take over the troubled investment bank Bear Stearns, and was instrumental in the decision to let another firm, Lehman Brothers, fail. He also worked with his predecessor, former treasury secretary Hank Paulson, and Bernanke to convert the US\$700 billion Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP). The measure gave financial support to banks, insurers and credit card companies, as well as the lending arms of GM and Chrysler. It was a long

day before Geithner blasted his plan to rescue the financial sector for not doing enough to punish recklessness. Bill Steiner, while others suggested his efforts to assist struggling companies, particularly GM and Chrysler, were pushing the U.S. toward another. After it was disclosed that AIG, recipient of US\$80 billion bailout, was planning to pay huge bonuses to its employees, Geithner became the lightning rod for criticism, with more than half of Americans blaming him for the scandal.

Today, many still have fears about the weakening U.S. dollar and the staggering debt Washington has piled up to buy this recovery. Yet, as economic inde-

pendence becomes blurred by plans to rescue the financial sector for not doing enough to punish recklessness. Bill Steiner, while others suggested his efforts to assist struggling companies, particularly GM and Chrysler, were pushing the U.S. toward another. After it was disclosed that AIG, recipient of US\$80 billion bailout, was planning to pay huge bonuses to its employees, Geithner became the lightning rod for criticism, with more than half of Americans blaming him for the scandal.

If the ultimate vindication himself has been to Geithner, the majority of Americans will remember him less for what came next. The financial system still needs fixing. But the time to undertake massive reconstructive surgery wasn't when the patient

WINNER
TIMOTHY GEITHNER

U.S. TREASURY SECRETARY
TIMOTHY GEITHNER

most reward coming from a topsy-turvy Wall Street collapse.

So when Barack Obama picked Geithner, then 47, to head the Treasury Department, many initially cheered the choice, despite the revelation that Geithner had failed to pay US\$13,000 in taxes to the IRS. But through much of the spring, odds for him to be fired became as almost

rare as a shift from barefoot to "last worse" as barrier, criticism of Geithner has been replaced with grading praise. "He gets a high rating for really driving into the eye of the hurricane and taking bold actions in a progressive way with very positive results," says Brian Berenson, chief U.S. financial economist at IHS Global Insight. But, he adds, Geithner's

was lying on the garage with a hacking chest wound.

For now, Geithner and other senior members of Obama's economic team have earned up the reward and got the paternally grinning on his face. And if they win the election, that's a win for Geithner, for America, and for everyone, the rest of the world. ■

—Jason Rantz

ROGUES GALLERY

By Nancy Macdonald

**SILVIO BERLUSCONI**

The Italian Prime Minister's 2006 bribe scandal has made him look like a real-life *Madoff*—who says she can't find his *Papa*?—come to be reviled by the *Wall Street Journal* as a "corrupt old dog."

KATE MOSS

The supermodel's sex scandals have been all over the news. Now, after an apparent engagement to real estate tycoon *Roman Abramovich*, she's become a target for paparazzi, fighting to reclaim the cult of innocence.

GORDON RAMSAY

The British chef runs the Ramsay's, a bustling restaurant empire, and faced accusations of robbery from *American Pickers* host Mike Wolfe in a "true form of *real life*."

NADYA SULEMAN

AKA "Octomom," the mom who gave birth to octuplets in 2009, she's been accused of being a "cultural icon" and a "symbol of the American dream." She's also been accused of being a "publicity hound."

MIKE ZAFIROVSKY

He got his start in the music business, then expanded into bankruptcy, then recovered \$45 million in investment losses to become one of the world's top hedge fund managers once again. Now he's had two separate bankruptcies.

DAVID LETTERMAN

An alleged extramarital affair prompted the *David Letterman Show* host to admit that he had "had sex with women who work for me." But rather than quit as he did in a workplace affair with sexual misconduct and verbal harassment, he stayed on. And while he may have damaged his popularity, *Letterman* is up first per capita last year.



LEV LEVIEV



OLEG DERIPASKA



ROMAN ABRAMOVICH



SERGEI POLONSKY

THE BLINGSHEVIKS

They Are Russia's version of the Carnegies and Rockefellers, the rubber barons, ruggers and plutocrats, the bling-bling who decided to dignify the world with their bratty displays of pure Soviet wealth: US\$175,000-a-bottle champagne, diamond-encrusted cellphones, flats of super-yachts—"yachts," to the fraternal take. Suddenly, those days seem a distant memory. Since the economic crisis began, Russia's once-omnipotent oligarchs have taken one of the most dramatic falls of fortunes anywhere. The Russian oligarchs' versions of

the Carnegies and Rockefellers, the rubber barons, ruggers and plutocrats, the bling-bling who decided to dignify the world with their bratty displays of pure Soviet wealth: US\$175,000-a-bottle champagne, diamond-encrusted cellphones, flats of super-yachts—"yachts," to the fraternal take. Suddenly, those days seem a distant memory. Since the economic crisis began, Russia's once-omnipotent oligarchs have taken one of the most dramatic falls of fortunes anywhere. The Russian oligarchs' versions of

meals to mining to finance to cars, account for fully one percent of the Russian GDP. To pay off existing debts, he's peddling assets as fast as he can: everything he owns (including Canadian car parts manufacturer Magnate, and reengineering US\$7 billion of debt for UCI Rosal, the world's biggest aluminum producer) and his own jewel.

Roman Abramovich, the multi-billionaire owner of the Chelsea Football Club, and a fleet of private yachts known as "Russia's Navy," has alienated the state for its metals and mining company Evraz, holding up two government loans totaling US\$8.1 billion so far.

The oligarchs of all, US\$4.5 billion, went to Oleg Deripaska, once Russia's richest man, whose personal fortune has shrunk by US\$20 billion since the meltdown. His empire, which stretches from

northern

billion-dollar paper forests credit

Oleg Deripaska, who made his money in beer and finance, and Lev Leviev, who made his US\$8.1 billion fortune in diamonds, have each extended a jet.

Indeed, Russia's other private sector is in serious trouble because, over the past five years, its oligarchs borrowed at least US\$100 billion from global banks and investors, raising, acquiring, and expanding at a toro-

nous pace, causing strong requests for restructurings of borrowed ru-

bles. But overborrowing is rendering the oligarchs, as it always does when credit ends

nears zero, consumers stop

spending, banks stop lending, and cheap money dries up. Along with commodity prices, the cur-

rency has come crashing down in the Russian economy, revealing just how vulnerable some companies were—and how increasingly they were being run, says London-based Russie watcher Edward Laure, author of *The New Gold Rush*.

To keep his business afloat, Sergei Polonsky, head of the nation's real estate giant the Matrix Group, sold his private yacht, his hotel, Sunstar, Post Reed, and his house on the City of Love Island; enough Matrix, worth US\$2 billion in 2008 according to Forbes, has had to tap all construction sites to cover those

the firm's assets for its future to repay a US\$30-million loan.

It's a lesson Polonsky who, just a year ago, declared, "Those who don't have a billion can go to hell."

—Nancy Macdonald



PHOTO BY ANDREW COOPER FOR TIME OUT LONDON

FEUDS

By Philippe Galar

PALIN VS. JOHNSTON



Call it the Palin vs. Johnston. America's most famous Alaskans have been at it since 2008, when Sarah Palin's son Trig Johnston, 20, got into a fight with Palin's daughter Bristol Palin's boyfriend, Levi Johnston. Bristol's dad, John, then released a portrait of Sarah as a fat 9-year-old with a "fearless, healthy, happy expression." Palin immediately had dismissed Bristol's relationship with Johnston as a "crisis," and the two women have been at odds ever since over the issue of bringing a dead son on a "road trip" for fame, attention, and fortune.



SEPARATISTS VS. THE NATIONAL BATTLEFIELDS COMMISSION

When God has this kind of crazy separation fever, there's no stopping it. After a year-and-a-half of the battle of the Rams at Arsenyev, Canada's most brutal battle fields Commission finally cracked down on the separatists. They're still at it, though, in a case. Andriy Anoussov, then commission president, died by way of explanation. There was even an FBI raid and we don't even mention history's most brutal battles by the week. Read by the week.

ATHEISTS VS. UNITED CHURCH

Last winter, Canadian atheists announced they would be holding a series of events to promote their message. There is nothing like God. More like, we're young and those who are "atheist" rather than "try to convert us" are the ones who are. United Church of Canada stated its plan to sue. Now, it's all about who will enjoy your life. Whatever impact the suit may have had, the real message may very well have been: "There's probably no point arguing about religion on the issues of taxes."



AMERICAN APPAREL VS. WOODY ALLEN

Woody Allen can't seem to get away from the fashion world's ire. When he was the face of American Apparel, he was a hit. Now, when his company comes up, still, one well-known atheist himself when his thumbs up found its way onto a shirt. American Apparel's CEO, Dov Charney, was sued over the ad, which showed a shirt emblazoned with an Orthodox Jew with a kippah in a hoodie, calling him "the best hedge fund." They settled out of court in May for \$100,000.

CHINA VS. RIO TINTO

Last July, Chinese officials arrested four executives of Australian mining giant Rio Tinto, accusing them of stealing state secrets. The arrests followed a failed bid by China's state-owned Chinese mineral company, Shougang, to buy a 10% stake in Rio Tinto along with Australia's Rio itself, still working to this day. Hu, the company's chief exec, one negotiator, said Chinese officials had been investigating him for corruption.

INDIA VS. SCOTLAND

The future of Indian restaurants in Glasgow isn't Ahmed Aslam's chicken tikka masala, says India's 10th Scot. In fact, the 10-year-old founder of the Shish Mahal restaurant claims he invented it in the same 1970s. A Scottish MP is now forcing the fast-food chain to change its name, trying to stop the protected designation of origin for the dish. Indian foodies have responded. Just a month ago, a protest took place, and say chicken tikka masala is an "astounding Hughie thing" that's been ditched down for general



David Beckham probably knew better than to expect a warm welcome when he returned to L.A. for his first home game at the Major League Soccer's Galaxy. Despite his US\$25-million contract, the star had skipped the Galaxy's first 17 matches of the season, opting to play for Argentina's national team. The reception was equally cool, with fans shouting, "We're not Italy," and the team's owner, Mark Goldstone, offering to drop a pair of \$100K at the door if Beckham came. He just wanted to shake hands. He was \$100,000 USD for the gesture. (Genius.)

Is it a meal? or an experience?



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BREAKUPS

Paul Haggis and **Elizabeth**

Hiking Hollywood greenery, the Oscar-winning director publicly ended and burned his 15-year alliance with Fox-Couch's place of worship in a letter blasting the

Kate and Jon Gosselin

After 16 years, a亿万 dollar divorce, five seasons of *Flavor of the Month*, a rammy oak-and-mudry cosmetic surgery, the *Jess & Kate* book, and two canceled other marriages (and TV shows), each accusing the other of infidelity

The couple again appear back-to-back interviews that the intrusive tabloid media they courted can subscribe to their split and that they would leave their now-new old home and live year-old son and wife in the Pennsylvania mansion on 30 acres, while ex and dad move in and out "to minimize the disruption."

Alexis Specter and **the Republican party**

Claiming he was increasingly "at odds with Republican philosophy," the veteran Pennsylvania senator crossed the aisle in a spring switcheroo that put the Senate Democrats one vote shy from the majority. Let's hope the

Eazy Hustler and **the Ottawa Senators**

The disgruntled forward finally got himself to be traded, but not before his vote of no confidence in the Senators. Others made him a national pariah. Let's hope the

Elton John warmer in San Jose for the newest Stark.

Greg Norman and **Chris Evert**

The ESPN Gary tie-up between the retired golf great and former tennis champ came at the cost of two marriages, a US\$10 million settlement for Norman's wife of 26 years, and US\$2.3 million for a blowout Belmont wedding. Reports later it was legal for underwriting solid children and immunity over whose looks should be set up house in



Princesses Telling split

Not only were lots, no more will be made. But the sibling of this royal 17th-century pack had no more gates. The sisters, both to prove that Chinese names could have reached America before Colonists or Magellan, were dead in a cargo van at near-Taiwan one day short of celebrating 20 years of coexisting as the Pacific Ocean



PHOTOGRAPH BY JEFFREY MAYER

chards for his "tacit" support of same-sex marriage laws. Hailing the London, Ont., lawmaker's sex was the "terrible personal pain" she suffered when she was exiled from her parish after they quit the religion.

of a filmmaker-proof majority of 60 seats and further solidified the ideological divide between the two parties.

Axminster and **the Wilkins** are still

The Janus-faced self-titled nontrousers in breakaway from the world's largest construction company, with the last major fracture recorded in April. It's the sixth and largest ice shelf to give ground in the past 50 years.

Steven Page and **the Rascallettes**

Fans of the beloved band were buoyed when its unpredictable lead singer and songwriter returned by unearthing the group he co-founded in 1988 (against a solo career) in the wake of an axeman/vandal capped by a heat-for cocaine possession

Averi Lavigne and **Deryck Whibley**

The just-pregnant Napanee, Ont., diva, finally and "a little bit" to the Toronto-born Sonny-41 lead singer after 10 years together, then as husband and wife. Known for their playboyish, the couple took pains to declare each other "strange" on their fan websites post-split.

Ian Devey and **Michael Ignatieff**

So much for political loyalty! The filmmaker son-of-famed Lab era "Renaissance" Kirk Devey scuttled the Harvard intellectus, ran his failed independent bid and served in chief of staff after Ignatieff was ousted, leading only to keepup without vying for former Chretien aide

of a fillmore-proof majority of 60 seats and further solidified the ideological divide between the two parties.

The why Austria's

businessman's latest effort to get into the higher-profile vehicle-manufacturing game centered off the road in November when General Motors, no longer at deathbed, decided to hang on to its European Opel division instead striking a majority stake to South Korea's Magna International and a Russian partner.

Surely the disappointment at the unexpected turn of events was etched on his craggy face, but the official line from the company was one of understanding (GM is Magna's biggest customer) and a pledge to go back to business as usual. Magna's investors, however, have been bizzare.

Shares of the Austria, Ost-based company soared 25 per cent by the end of the week of the announcement. Analysts, too, were quick to call it a "win-win." For one thing, building out and tracks has also been a road to success in its ties to GM and Chrysler, the latter of which Strohach also traditionally sought to buy before the wheels fell off the once North American industry.

The Opel deal also illustrated to Magna's eye off the ball just as opportunity to acquire troubled auto parts companies are mounting. And then there was the more speculative issue of eliminating Magna's current car-making divisions, several of whom don't fancy the idea of buying their vehicle parts from a direct competitor.

But while striking a corporate raider, the more sensible (and profitable) course of action, Strohach has rarely paid much attention, if any, to what other people think of his audacious treble-headed foray into the hars

—June Argosy

ROAD WARRIOR

De the relief of just about everyone around him, auto parts car firm Strohach appears prepared to finally forge his dream of becoming a full-fledged mass factor of the automotive

BREAKUP
FRANK STRONACH
AT OPEL

industry's latest column, often to the chagrin of Magna International and shareholders. Creating with debt, the now-spawned company is attempting to restore itself to bankruptcy protection, although Strohach apparently gave up on the concept.

Strohach has also been crus-

ing for the return of his

card for taking hefty pay packages, considering he's the company's chairman, not its CEO. Although his compensation appeared to be parity (by Strohach's standards) for a yearlong excluding stock options last year, in part of a temporary effort to reflect the industry downturn, he had previously pulled in closer to \$40 million or \$50 million—a level that he said to return since the industry is again facing oil on all cylinders.

Why should we believe his car-building fantasies will be put down more easily? ■

Chris Strohach



PHOTOGRAPH BY JEFFREY MAYER

MERGERS



ARCHIE AND VERONICA

**Alex Rodriguez
and Kate Hudson**

The baseball slugger and film star confirmed their relationship, though the latter party might give away the secret by following A-Rod's Yankees across the U.S. during the baseball season. In February, Rodriguez agreed to a six-year deal between 2001 and 2007—which proves that women love us “boring” men.

**Peter MacKay
and Jessie Jorgovac**

The Justice Minister is engaged, and the nice object of his affection isn't a fellow politician—though he's helping him out—Jorgovac, director of programming at CTV News Channel. In November, Jack, the MacKay family dog, reportedly happy—he rarely walks his way too often when there's no answer to the door. Eat your heart out, Belinda and Gord.

Disney and Marvel

Disney got significantly cooler in August when it announced a \$5.4-billion deal to buy Marvel Entertainment. While the company will finally have a stable of strong heroes—Iron Man and Wolverine come to mind. Perhaps the Marvel guys will find it more tough to play Archie and Veronica.

Archie and Veronica

Else he married Veronica. Then he married Betty. But Archie's reboogued boudoir “deems” could you see this reading my other two? The rehash between strutting those two out for 70 years may say he's got the best of both worlds—one rich girl, one nice girl—why not? By choosing Veronica. By the way, you have noticed Betty and Veronica look exactly the same, except for their hair colour?

Samsung and Petro-Canada

I don't know if it is marriage made in heaven. But it is a match made in Canada.” Samsung's CEO Kitack Lee said when he was pin-striped together with Petro-Canada. The deal protects two players in Canada and pushes from foreign takeovers. It also means we have

one less company to blame the next time gas prices skyrocket.

**Michael Vick and
the Humane Society**

Michael Vick used to be a sick puppy, now he's helping him. The dogfighting queen has joined the Humane Society of the U.S. team up after Vick was released from prison in May. Now that he's back in the NFL, we'll see how much time he has for the Superbowl and Best of the World.

Flinn and Chrysler

If anyone can make Chrysler upholster again, it's the Italian automaker. But this deal is just short of reviving the northbound American institution. But plenty more Chrysler's dealerships and manufacturing plants to promote its own brands (and those of subsidiary Alfa Romeo) in the North American market. As the Italians say: Ora non rivedi, non rivedi. (Nothing ventured, nothing gained!).

**Robert Pattinson
and Kristen Stewart**

Honestly, we can't figure out whether the Twilight stars are dating or not. They keep denying a relationship, but then we're randomly photographed holding hands in Paris. It's an fair to keep so many teensy-languishing in crass publicity.

Danica Trujillo marries

Married Donald Trump—or Ted Trujo, as she's now known—convinced by Judson and quizzed New York Observer owner Jared Kushner on Oct. 25. She wore a Vera Wang dress. No one could tell whether Donald was wearing a yarmulke—or whether he was having another bad hair day.

GFP and Styrax

The Canadian Pension Plan's purchase of a portion of the largest phone company signals the emergence of a bold GFP. New to the liaison between Styrax and the computer needs who developed the online phone technology has been settled, pensioners can expect to see money start rolling in—over the Web, that is. ■

—Sara Goldstein

Michael Land and David Strohmer


POWER COUPLES

“Raw power” wins the show

Deck Bonin revisited repeatedly this fall as he co-judged battles of the blade, CBC's hotly contested pairing. Female figure skaters with record NHL players, and the words took some getting used to. See, Craig Simpson, Claude Lemieux, Stephane Matteau and others osteo-intrusiveness as they enter the ice, effectively hunting their partners through these seven week bouts. But just when was rawer virtue in figure skating?

Say all you want about TV ratings. Or the softer side of hockey players. Bunt's real accomplishment was to show the benefits of piling up points on the ride side of an infatuation duo. For so long, the sport has been held hostage to a financial authority, in which super-encrusted men act like believe in writing their impossibly large checks. Stand off the blades, referee harshly, treat the skaters to more exposed breasts than those on *Entertainment Weekly*, and the cashed-out gatekeepers had expanded the audience. “We wanted the men to look like men,” says executive

producer John Steenbergen, “and the women to look sexy.”

During the pantomime episode, Shaw Lefebvre became a brotha's angel over Claude Lemieux's head, creating a vision both poignant and seductive. We all knew Jamie Sale could delight, but who knew she could be raunchy? And the players themselves were equally revelations.

Toss out the Dooms as a credibility slayer when he's not chacking haymakers. Jim Duggan—whose rock-hewn legendary during his time on Broadway played for the Rangers—is now Canada's official namesake to Michael Jackson. And who could forget re-enacting to the sound of the new wave singalong Leonard Cohen's *Hallelujah*? That was my first title,” he later said. “I come from a very musical family.”

By the Nov. 16 finale, the show could boast a checklist of entertainments out. Not only did it generate smashing figure skating (more than 40 percent of *Styrax*'s 1.7 million-plus weekly viewers were males), it got the rest of the world interested in something Canadian. The *New York Times* wrote a glowing story about the program, while Insight Productions, the company that remastered the show into the CBC's greatest hits, has been fielding queries from as far away as Sweden and Russia from armchair connoisseurs in replicating the format. Here in Canada, planning for a second season has already begun.

More important to Canadians, the program brought in greater numbers than have ever seen separate while living and by miles across the country (bonnie, for us, when the area on less ignored hockey while growing up. In Charlottetown, and had scarcely heard of Lethbridge when told the former agitator would be her partner. “It's not that figure skating and hockey have been enemies,” she says. “They just haven't always worked together.” Bonin points to Russia, where she has witnessed hockey players and figure skaters working together to success. “Slowly, slowly would be the future skating coaches and hockey coaches need to be in Canada,” she adds. “Both sports would be better, and the athletes on both sides would benefit. We should be on the same team.” ■

—Charles Gofe



ANNA KOURNIKOVA AND PETER HACYK



ROBERT PATTINSON AND KRISTEN STEWART

“I don't know if it is marriage made in heaven. But it is a match made in Canada.” Samsung's CEO Kitack Lee said when he was pin-striped together with Petro-Canada. The deal protects two players in Canada and pushes from foreign takeovers. It also means we have

PHOTO COURTESY OF SAMSUNG; PHOTOS BY JEFF PACHOUD/AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE

U-TURNS

TD Bank recovers from fiasco

After plans to impose a \$15 user-fee for lines of credit sparked nationwide outrage, TD last got the message. On top of scrapping the introductory charge, the bank pledged not to implement any new or increased fees on most products this year. At Toronto-Dominion Bank, it seems the customer is right after all.

It's their party

The last thing sitting politicians need to worry about, says fed ex Tory party president Dan Plett, is making it out in riding-level nomination fight. After all, holding onto power in a minority government can be arduous. And so, despite not being the Liberals for the same policy, Conservative MPs will now, for the first time, be granted automatic nominations in the next election.

that Taewer carry "the risk of death, particularly for severely agitated individuals." Now when users are deployed, Mounties are advised to stay clear of the suspect's chest, lest the electric dry trigger a cardiac arrest. Apparently, killing someone with up to 5,000 volts of electricity isn't, in fact, being dangerous.



Angeleena's drama aversarial

Consider this year's most interesting fashion switch: In a bid for what her stylist called a "more mature" look, Angeleena Jones wore her Max Azria gowns backwards to the Scream Award Guild awards. Thus the plunging neckline happened to highlight her toned, retrofitted back without even being noticed.

Mother of a two-child policy

After three decades of imposing a severe one-child-only policy, China is racing to a new reality: a worldwide shortage. To balance out Shanghai's aging population, men and women who are both only children are encouraged to go forth and multiply...twice.

That \$400-million bomb

After a proposal to lend \$20,000 (plus interest) to each of the families of all those killed during the Northern Ireland Troubles—including members of paramilitary groups even a brother who died when he cleverly exploded—died far from some of the deceased, Prime Minister Gordon Brown's government rejected it.

claimed, "there is a clear line of demarcation between good and evil."

Wikipedia cleaner makes

The Web's biggest open knowledge hub isn't so open any more. As English-language articles passed the three-million mark, Wikipedia began keeping closer watch of entries, letting people, giving a group of trusted editors the power to accept or reject revisions.



From reality TV to White House

Alexandra Campoverdi is campaign manager who took Barack Obama's message of change to heart. Before joining his team, Campoverdi, a Harvard grad, chose to put her other issues to work, appearing on the NBC reality show *For Love Or Money* and posing in *Men's Health*. Her transformation prompted you mother than a few shortly after she became an assistant to a deputy chief of staff, she was nominated to be campaign manager. Obama's 2010 oral-spark writer who had previously bewitched his audience:

Violin seen as hot Harry Potter

After changing author J.K. Rowling was creating a story where "white is" is prepared as a positive ideal," the Vancouver offbeat newspaper appears to have wavered up to Harry Potter. In *L'Observateur* (Montreal's incarnation of Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince), the lead film adaptation's curmudgeon that now there's "no need to finish" construction.

—Rachel Mandelbaum

The natural

Women have yet another reason to thank their partner at Tom Jones. The Sex Bomb singer, 59, has abandoned his signature dark brown hair in favour of a more natural look, a decision he considers he should have made years ago. "Women love it," says the silver-haired Jones, who has also vowed to give up plastic surgery.

Gloomy, Texas might be trouble

Breathing with port statements, the SCMP recently conceded

that the West Bank wall, which forces pro-Palestinians "issues that keep countries apart," isn't so necessary anymore. After years of criticism from the international community over the barrier, which runs in and around the West Bank separating the Palestinian territory from Israel, Yair Eskenazi, the head of Israel's security service, told a parliamentary committee that now there's "no need to finish" construction.

—TOM HANCOCK



STEPHEN HARPER

STEALING THE SHOW

Since political reformers are always right, Stephen Harper had only a few weeks left to reign free, politics in disgrace before the New Year. *Never mind!*

Or perhaps you don't recall the spate of commentary at the beginning of the year to the effect that Harper, having survived the first term of a hapless interim prime minister, had secured a second. Harper was indeed unassisted. The 2006 election gave him a strengthened majority and left Liberal Stephane Dion's leadership internally compromised. Somehow Harper managed to provoke an opposition united front that threatened to coagulate into a coalition government. He survived that threat only to do what he has always done when he is faced with out: the time against Brian Mulroney, whose Conservative party membership then became the focus of almost

every controversy sparked by Harper's PMO spinmeisters. What saved him, Harper will tell you again, was the economic recession and the lack of uncertainty it provided. Canada was warned, and to the amazement of all, Harper's return did seem particularly assured. Harper was indeed unassisted. The 2006 election gave him a strengthened majority and left Liberal Stephane Dion's leadership internally compromised. Somehow Harper managed to provoke an opposition united front that threatened to coagulate into a coalition government. He survived that threat only to do what he has always done when he is faced with out: the time against Brian Mulroney, whose Conservative party membership then became the focus of almost

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—Paul Wells

From one average
Canadian to
another
Jack L.



MICHAËLLE JEAN
THE PRINCIPAL
"I am the very model of
a modern major general"
A Ottawa lawyer, Jean has described herself as Canada's head of state in a speech in Paris. More glibness than Canuck. Looks more comfortable in uniform than Charles.



LINDA FRIZZELL
HEALTH AND SAFETY CHIEF
"We... That's not where
full-body sleeping bags..."
Working hard at hardly anything, thumbnail-tiny Linda makes herself indispensable to government department. One question: How well would she do if told to leave them jacking parsnips?



SUNITA BHALLA
WELCOME MANAGER
"You missed a spot... on my
another's face!"
Bhalla's PR finds a headline she doesn't like when caregivers are giving her a hard time. They're ill-treated, she's got-fall lawyer and queen on the offensive, but everyone gets dirty

POLITICAL



BRIAN MULRONEY
INTERNATIONAL STATESMAN
"I suppose I've had a few..."
Took money in legal sexual envelopes from Marlboro Schweiger. The Independent inquiry report won't be released until next year, but it's already clear what our biggest mistake was.



PETER MACKAY
PRH ED
"Work harder 2011!"
Rapidly aging pink Avalanche fan in a charity rugby match on Remembrance Day. Benefits netted by proposing to a CTV news producer that he burns his word about politics on Canadian stages out of Afghanistan?



KEVIN PAGE
HALL MONITOR
"Oh, so that's what
independent means!"
Independent budget officer has the temerity to actually question what's going on in the budget. He doesn't like it when caregivers are giving him a hard time. They're ill-treated, she's got-fall lawyer and queen on the offensive, but everyone gets dirty



PETER D'ONOFOIO
MASS COMMUNICATIONS
"Your innovative spirit is an
important part of us."

Popular former car salesman returns to an exciting new challenge—stealing tips from himself. First task: find a donor for the chameleotransmitter. Second task: teach the creature how to skate.



RANDY JAFFEE
DR. JAFFEE'S EDUCATION
"One on 2,000, and we can't singed
it to have done?"
Former Tony MP fires up and inspired dancing changes after being stopped in rural Ontario during his self-imposed tour to the HQs of the tea party most embarrassing event of his life.



GORDON CAMPBELL
MOST LIKELY TO SUCCEED
"Don't forget that there's
nothing in the world like a
Canada committee when you're
preparing for the World Cup circuit. All
systems are go for the 2010
Vancouver Games. Let's all
lack in the golden glow."

So it's wild that you went? There, I've undone my collar button. —Glenys Catty S

YEARBOOK '09



STEPHEN HARPER
CLUB
"Get high with a little help
from my friends!"
Robert iPhone Minister surprised everyone by briefly appearing human—in public. Success dampened by the fact that he had his hands five years to find a tune he could carry.



LINDA FRIZZELL
HEAD CHEERLEADER
"Utterly qualified!"
Former Alberta Postie and Maclean's editor-in-chief gave the ultimate taskless thanks, a seat in the Senate, more journalists in the upper chamber and in the Ottawa Valley gallery. But how did they feel? Still?



MICHAEL IGNATIEFF
PRD
"Each a Russian Ambassador
in a caravan of mice."
Good news/bad news: you are the only Canadian politician who's long enough to merit an extremely long and boring profile. In the end, though, it's the same old Ignatieff.



GEORGE SMITHERMAN
OPTING FOR BASIC STREAM
"Whatever it takes to keep
John Tory out of office!"
Funeral singer Ontario's only MP, George Smitherman, decided to kick on live TV Justin Trudeau's now-sainted Liberal voice in the process. And since I've believed in others?



LISA RAITT
GOSS
"It's not an entitlement
lunch, Goss."
Natural resources minister tells the world on Twitter that her lunch break raises hell behind her desk in a TV studio. Boss caught on base bedrock-shifting cabinet colleague. Provides greatest quote ever.



DIANE ABOGDES
PRH CLUB
"I swear, I thought Stompeade
was the sex god!"
Minister of state for Inuit affairs called onto the PRH's couch after giving Toronto's PRs a pre-arranged \$4,000,000 stimulus grant. The project funded by Canadian Oil Sands (formerly helmers) Action Plan.



PATRICK BRAZEAU
PARTY ANIMAL
"These nags go all the way to 11!"
By the time he got to the podium, he'd dropped by kilograms of not-so-awesome bunnies in former job, dodged expenses, drinking on the job, sexual harassment, Kelvin High school
—Jonathan Gatehouse

PHOTO: GUY LAWRENCE/SHUTTERSTOCK; TOP: PHOTODISC/GETTY IMAGES

Trichotomy
a column
by John
Jacobs p



100 years of Audi
Vorsprung durch Technik



Practice

1968 - Audi 100



Practice

1982 - Audi 100 C2



Practice

1991 - Audi 100 C3



Practice

1997 - Audi A6 C4



Practice

1994 - Audi A8 L



Practice

1997 - Audi A6 C5



Practice

1998 - Audi TT C1



Practice

2007 - Audi R8 V10



Practice

2005 - Audi Q7



Practice

1994 - Audi A8 L



Practice

2004 - Audi A6 C6



Practice

2001 - Audi A4 B6



Practice

1994 - Audi RS 2



Practice

2004 - Audi A4 B7



Practice

1999 - Audi R8 C2



Practice

1997 - Audi A6 C5



Practice

1994 - Audi A8 L



Practice

2004 - Audi A6 C6



Practice

2004 - Audi A4 B7



Practice

2011 - Audi A6 C7



Perfect.

100 years in the making. The new Audi R8 V10 quattro.

©2008 Audi AG. Future model. 2008 Audi A6 V10 (4.2L) quattro shown with optional equipment. MSRP \$74,400. *Performance based on model base price, and the following conditions are included: a registered insurance of \$200.00, 10% down payment, and a 60 month term with a \$1,000 down payment. In your state or province.

WHEELS OF FORTUNE

Winners and losers in a big year for a big industry



AMERICAN MUSCLE

Forget the hybrids. This year the American auto industry went back to the muscle car roots, reviving affordable sports cars with big-throated engines. The Ford Mustang, Chevrolet Camaro, Dodge Charger, and Chrysler 300 all received new versions of superstar power for the Detroit Three. While overall car sales saw double-digit declines, muscle car sales jumped over 10 percent. And there's still room for the driver who wants to get where he's going fast—and preferably in a straight line.

DETOUR AHEAD

A雷曼兄弟的救援本已精心计划好，但这次是该岛的Cape Verde。它们驾驶650公里飞往欧洲的大陆，希望在抵达前能将自己从一场金融风暴中解救出来。但当他们到达目的地时，发现自己的车是GPS盲区。Cape Verde的居民“统治”了一块狭长的海岸线，但没有GPS服务。他们甚至不知道为什么他们不知道自己离大陆有多远。

Practice

11/14 - MINI COOPER



Practice

11/14 - LAMBORGHINI



Practice

11/14 - FERRARI 458 ITALIA



Practice

11/14 - VOLKSWAGEN GOLF



Practice

11/14 - VOLKSWAGEN GOLF



Practice

11/14 - AUDI A3



ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE

For the auto industry, the year was a good one...unless you're in a country. That was when the U.S. government's \$787-billion cash injection to stabilize the auto industry hit high gear and Americans were offered as much as US\$4,500 to trade in their old cars for new ones. Car companies and the auto parts industry especially saw gains at the top.

DREAM MACHINES

Toyota perhaps best summed up the year's release of sedans. First came the Prius V, followed by the 2010 model. Then came the 552-hp Lexus LF-LC hybrid. Finally, the 2011 model will be put into production. Chrysler introduced its first four-door sedan since 1988, the Cirrus, which costs US\$13,000 for the luxury version. Audi has a new version of its R8 supercar (above). The V800 Le Mans 24-hour race in France. Johnson called speedster "a bit of fun." It's like Scarlett Johansson's hot

GOT A BOOST?

Chrysler announced the timing of its first commitment to an electric-car program. The world's most popular electric car, GM's Volt (above), is still a prototype. Canada's 2010 Motor City Auto Show was all about the electric car, making business to focus on battery technology. The only real electric car in North America is the Nissan Leaf, at an MSRP of \$32,000. Are we in a race to see who's the future? We'll still be waiting.

EXIT RAMP

The slowdown that industry watchers have taken to calling the "Caucasianisis" has led to a wave of corporate-level layoffs. Saturn was dropped by GM, as was the storied Pontiac. Neopla, despite its history of building the world's largest vehicles, has filed for bankruptcy. GM's GM-Rick Wagoner GM's long-time chief executive officer left the auto giant last week. He was succeeded by Adam Opel, who had been GM's international president. GM dealers feel the sting, too—GM is shutting 42 percent of its Canadian dealerships.



ROADSIDE OBSTRUCTION

A driver crashed his \$4 million Bugatti Veyron into a saltwater tank near Galveston, Texas, after he used the bumper-stick feature by a local gas station (above). In Peterborough, England, the driver of a \$235,000 Lamborghini Gallardo (below) noticed smoke following from his car's engine compartment. After putting out the fire extinguisher but the vehicle burned to a blackened crisp, the incident ended up in "Red Bull" (below). The sports car quickly went



KEEPING AMERICA

AUTOPilot

The new BMW 750 Li (above) is a fortress on wheels. It's three inches wider than the previous model and has a host of high-tech features, including a rear-view camera, night vision sensors to detect cars in the blind spot, and a camera on the front bumper to help drivers better judge parking at intersections. Mercedes has a comparable monster, the SLS AMG One (below). Both cars have adaptive cruise control, front and rear collision-warning systems, and for about US\$125,000 (BMW) or US\$115,000 (Mercedes), respectively.

CRUISE CONTROL

Park Assist, a forward collision-warning system can guide your big truck into the tightest spots. It automatically steers you toward the best parking spot. Volvo has a update on its new XC60 in which the vehicle will automatically brake when it detects a pedestrian in front of you. Future young drivers rejoice—with cars like these, a driver's license test will be a snap.

—Colin Campbell



FORMULA WIN

It was a tough year for Formula One racing. Toyota (above) was the last team to pull out of the sport. Renault was found guilty of rule-breaking. The good news: Jenson Button, the British driver came out on top. He won the Formula One championship after finishing second in the previous two seasons. He's due to drive for the Grand Prix team Benetton GP. As for the F1 driver he's likely to be in 2011, he's the BBC's "Man of the Year." Wow, work and win!



NATHAN SLATER

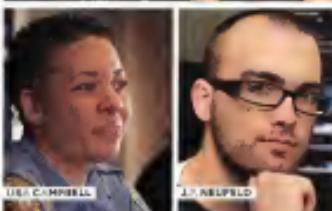


Practice

11/14 - MITSUBISHI LANCER

11/14 - FORD MUSTANG

11/14 - FORD MUSTANG



GOOD SAMARITANS

The children of *Changelings*

When a FBI 101 boulder dropped an strapped bag of cash on a waylay, money began rolling through the air. Passersby grabbed it, reaching under parked cars and handing down burning bills. When it was all over, Ian Walker had every one of the 10,000 dollars he stashed with.

Faron Hall

Seven years of living homeless along Winooski's Rail River have blunted Hall's humanity. In May, when a manager filling the heating water in my home, Hall, self-described "heavy alcoholics," jumped in and brought me only coffee. In August, Hall played flag football during a crowning ceremony.

Chesley Sullenberger III

He may have one hemisphere and a sun-fried brain, but Capt. "Sully" works for a living. He's very, very good at his job. Just recently, he piloted his crippled Air Bus A-320 to a near-impossible

smooth landing on New York's frigid Hudson River. All 150 on-board escaped alive. Last night off the rapidly sinking jet, after searching it twice, fully

Leonardo DiCaprio,
Kate Winslet and
Keisha Castle

If the Titanic rms wasn't rich before the 1997 film took care of that, in May they gave some back, contributing \$100,000 to the nursing-home fund of the ship's last survivor, Millvina Dean, 97, died soon after her final days had of financial concern.

J.R. Neifeld

The Cornell University senior reported an Internet posting in which a Bronx man claimed he would burn down his high school within the hour. Neifeld, a local police officer in Norfolk, England, who arrested the suspect, is ticked.

Ian Cartwright

The retired Oracle executive Court judge knows that there are some

cent people in prison and that those who would bar them are usually underfunded nonprofits with the Ministry of Justice. In January he gave \$1 million of his own money to the Association in Defense of the Wrongly Convicted. Cartwright hasn't even got a tax break for his generosity.

David and Penny Chapman

After their ice cream place in Nashville, Tenn., burned down, the Chapmans told their 350 workers they would rebuild in town. Workers should receive full pay for a year hourly employe

on for four months—and, thereof, the Chapmans would "take care of the rest" beyond that. One worker told a reporter she didn't know exactly what that meant, but the Chapmans' word meant "we're going to be fine."

Lisa Campbell

The University of California at Berkeley police specialist knew there was something not right about the ones in her office sole-

ing permission for a campus event. Rather than ignore the feeling, she set in motion the inquiry that saw Philip Garrido arrested and Jaycee Dugard, the woman he had kidnapped 18 years before, set free.

Jack Woodall

When the Bolgerer Insurance CEO sold half of his New Jersey firm, he picked up a \$150,000 boat. Instead of keeping it, he gave each of his 450 employees \$36,000. His only request? "I like it when they spend more time on their seats rather than pay talk."

Unknown from Foster

Samaritan is determined to set women referred to higher education, and our first graduate. This year, an anonymous donor gave \$30,000 toward an all-female U.S. post-secondary schools, with a portion earmarked for scholarships for women and men.

The only help we can give is education. Larger or small, they'll have female presidents. ■

—BRIAN FALCON

My name is Daniel Obrero.
I have a Bachelor's degree in
Education, a Master's in Holistic Child
Development, and a year to go on my
Master's in Theology.
I have traveled to minister to men,
women and children in Europe and Asia.
I am the senior pastor of Sarrat Bible
Baptist Church, a church in one of
the poorest communities in
the Philippines.
*It's the church I grew up in.
I am a Compassion
sponsored child.*

Poverty needs an eternal solution. It's a problem that seems overwhelming—too big for anyone to really make a difference. But a difference is possible.

"I remember waiting for my father by the door to ask if he had caught some fish for dinner. There were days that we had nothing to eat at all," says Daniel, the youngest child in his family. Despite his father's efforts as a fisherman, the family never had a consistent income. Only his family's faith in Jesus Christ sustained them, believing that God would provide whatever they needed.



In 2002, Daniel started the Workers Holistic Child Development Centre. Through the centre, he fed, clothed and taught the children, many of whom are teenagers today and continue to follow Daniel's example.

"[At first,] I questioned why he did not teach in a regular school to earn an income," Felicia, his 72-year-old mother, confesses. "My other children wanted how their baby brother could support himself. But now I understand that, for Daniel, doing the Lord's work is more important than anything in the world."

In 2006, Daniel went to serve the people of Cambodia in an orphanage run by Solid Rock Baptist Church. "Cambodia is like the Philippines 10 years ago. Poverty there is so pronounced and they need the gospel terribly," he explains. "In the Tepok-khlong village, the people thought 'Jesus' was a type of food." At the orphanage, he taught children the Bible, assisted in medical missions and feeding programs, tucked them into bed, and taught them English.

At nine-years-old, Daniel was registered at the San Lorenzo Student Centre, a Compassion project running in partnership with Samat Bible Baptist Church. Soon after, he was sponsored by Edward & Mary Endicott, a couple from the United Kingdom. "[It is amazing] to think that these people, who are not my blood relatives, actually cared about me. Through their letters, I was convinced that I was loved," says Daniel.

In 1996, Daniel was asked to join Compassion's Leadership Development program, a program supporting extraordinarily gifted students as they gain a university education. A degree in Education was followed by an invitation to earn a master's degree in Holistic Child Development from the Ilaphit Theological Seminary in Penang, Malaysia.

With his impressive scholastic achievements, he would certainly have found great success as a teacher. Indeed, this was his family's expectation. But Daniel felt a different calling: Full-time ministry to children.



"...I remember how people cared for me when I was little. I want to care for the little ones in poverty as Compassion cared for me. I want to introduce them to Jesus."

"It was a multi-tasking ministry," he says. "A number of young people heard about my English language class and decided to attend. These youth would otherwise not come anywhere near the church. During the class, I purposefully taught them the words 'blood,' 'love,' and 'forgiveness,' so that, later, I could tell them about Jesus."

Daniel was prepared to spend the rest of his life caring for the Cambodian people, but in April, 2009, he received a phone call that completely changed his life. Samat Bible Baptist Church's pastor had died, and its 150 members asked him to become their new senior pastor. He accepted the role in July, 2009.

Wiping tears from her eyes, Felicia says, "[Daniel] used to wait for me by the window and ask, 'Mamay, did you bring home food today? I'm very hungry.' I answered, 'Just sugar, son, it will do.' Now he has travelled to many countries, even to Europe—and [he] is my pastor. Who would have thought?"

As the pastor of his childhood church, Daniel is working to reopen the Worker's Holistic Child Development Centre, start new missions work, and expand his church's outreach to Nuevo Era, a community located in the Ilocos Mountains. Every Sunday, the church runs their "Faith Feeding" program to give the people a good meal. They've also distributed school supplies to the community's children, a pen and notebook for each one.

His reason for caring for the poor? It's simple. "I remember how people cared for me when I was little. [I have] a passion for ministry and a love for children... Jesus loves the little children. I want to care for the little ones in poverty as Compassion cared for me."

"I want to introduce them to Jesus."

**By Edwin Estioko, Compassion Philippines,
with Aaron Armstrong, Compassion Canada**

Poverty has an Eternal Solution.

THE DIFFERENCE IN DANIEL'S LIFE IS MORE THAN
EDUCATION, HEALTHCARE AND SOCIAL PROGRAMS

THE DIFFERENCE IS
JESUS

EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE

TheDifferenceisJesus.com



RELUCTANT STAR

Ask David Shultz, 39, the will try his best to convince you that everyone else deserves credit for the amazing piece of gold heatmap on his uniform. "The golden quartet is a Star of Military Valor, a honorary decoration so honored and so rare that no more than some Canadian soldiers—Shultz and a few—have ever earned the right to wear it. Gee and to recognize "the distinguished service and valuable service in the presence of the enemy," the Star is a second only to the esteemed Victoria Cross, which hasn't been phased on anyone since the Second World War. Translation: despite his heroism, Warrior Officer Shultz is a horn-like hero.

"It's an honor to wear it, but I wear it and accept it on behalf of my whole platoon," says the 20-year-old father of two, who has served more than half his life in the military. "It was a team effort, and the credit goes to all the troops who were on the ground that day."

That day—May 6, 2008—began like so many others. Standardized afterword operating just west of Kandahar, Shultz was in command of a team of troops when released from a perimeter of a series of roadside bombs. Shultz was to protect an convoy of Afghan national army vehicles when a rocket-propelled grenade exploded near his unit. Shultz ran into a nearby slope—and wearing a Star of Military Valor—because so many others "did their job." The sergeant who fired back, despite losing his hand? The one—Cpl. Michael Sturk—who didn't survive. The crew of the high-screamed vehicle, which rolled onto that hillside's nest and left no man behind. Shultz is so determined to downplay his own

role that, according to a member of Prism, Heron's Canadian Light Infantry, "he doesn't know anyone else who wears the same thing." He's also the only one who wears the badge on his uniform.

But that day—May 6, 2008—began like so many others. Standardized afterword operating just west of Kandahar, Shultz was in command of a team of troops when released from a perimeter of a series of roadside bombs. Shultz was to protect an convoy of Afghan national army vehicles when a rocket-propelled grenade exploded near his unit.

Rush hour came late; Shultz ran into a nearby slope—and wearing a Star of Military Valor—because so many others "did their job." The sergeant who fired back, despite losing his hand? The one—Cpl. Michael Sturk—who didn't survive. The crew of the high-screamed vehicle, which rolled onto that hillside's nest and left no man behind. Shultz is so determined to downplay his own

heroism that he even goes so far as to praise the Edmonton staff at LASIK Eye Surgery. The non-profit company covered his mitigation fees—of course he displayed "Support Your Troops" campaign t-shirts. "It was a lifetime," says. "There is no other way to describe it. I was able to see what I had to see, when as before it was tough with corrective lenses but were really confused and stupid."

Thankfully, what Shultz tries so hard not to say is overrated, fit all to see, in the official citation that accompanied his Star, which he received last month. "Regardless of the risks, Shultz's actions played a major role in saving the lives of his comrades, direct his soldiers and inspiring many," it reads. "He repeatedly entered the danger zone to extract casualties and evacuate the fallen fighting confinement. His leadership and courage inspired his comrades and prevented further casualties."

When asked if he risks his own life to carry two of his comrades to safer ground, Shultz replies, "Something like that."

He is a Canadian soldier, no doubt, humble, loyal, and, if at all possible, courageous. This is a man who knows full well that thousands of others have served in Afghanistan since 2001, and that many of them—at least 27 in 2008—have come home in big-drip caskets. "Every single day I'm here in Canada I'm grateful, because I know what the boys over there are doing," he says. "We've got a flush toilet, a hot shower and good food. All of our problems are trivial compared to what they are handling."

After two tours in Kandahar, Shultz is now assigned to the veterans' care cell at his regiment, where he works with wounded troops—and families of the fallen. "They are the unsung heroes of this mission," he says. "Without the support and their love, it would be extremely difficult to carry on. The families—particularly—that's what I like to think about the most, for stocking up through the good times and bad." ■

—Michael Pruden



DAVID SHULTZ WITH MICHELLE JEAN

FIRST-LADY FASHION FACEOFF

By Patrice Thibodeau

**Laurie
Harper
(Canada)**
Reformed
conserv-
ative" is the
watchword
for her very
safe wardrobe.



**Michelle
Obama**
(M 5.3 She's
tanned tall
and totally
fearless when it
comes to cooking.



Miyuki
Hatozawa
(Gigam)
Her belief in
UFOs comes
a sharp,
unfussy
fashion
intelligencer



**Crista Brazil
(Friends)**
The heiress and former supermodel has Continental-style hardware with her DNA.



Michelle Obama Shows Off Her Style



1



Michelle Obama Her love of bright and unusual shapes will always Carter's boring minimalist tones of grey, black and cream.

Michelle Obama Her love of bright and unusual shapes mixes with Carly's boring minimalist tones of gray black and cream.

WINNER

Queen Rania
Fashion triumphs over style. Rania dismisses the current Anna Wintour weaklings as "relaxed elegance" while Michelle follows her own fashion muse, *Vogue* innovative or damned.



Queen Bonda Her way with modern shaped fibro and trimme-power beret bears. Somalies' dated rock in roll

Sonsoles
Etxeberria Her
gender-bend-
ing Neo-Afro
style mojo
saxaphile
strives for bet-
ter world achieve-



**Associate
Engineer
(f/f)**
It's a pity
she shuns
the spotlight,
she's an
affectionately
elegant
example
of Zeta



**Svetlana
Meschede**
(Channel 3)
She takes
Russia-with
diamonds,
fur and
silences and
tastefully
trims the
bling down.



Urban Radio
Her musicality
shows
Sweden how
a contender
lets a dress
do the talking.



Queen Rania (Jordan) A enriched leather jacket and high-heeled footwear shrub. "I'm young, hot, and hip, and I'm a fashion entrepreneur too!"





COMEBACKS

Tiger Woods

He's back! The 15-time major champion has come back from a 14-month absence to win his first PGA Tour title since 2010. "It's been crazy," says Woods, who had been out since the spring. "I've been healthy and I've enjoyed it. It's been a while, but God, it felt good."

Tina Barrios

The 36-year-old Canadian country singer has moved 18 apartments since moving to Guelph, Ont., from Brampton, where she had been registered since. "Wendy [Woods] didn't bring it up in 1995," says Barrios, an American television star. "But the more I thought about it, the more I realized it was her fault."

Whitney Houston

After battling drug addiction and getting divorced, Whitney Houston has a new album called *How Will I Know*. But all eyes have been on her. The American Music Award ceremony gave Houston the voter award, which went to recognition of her global status. She also recently opened the new set of *The Oprah Winfrey Show*, where she looked like a moving embodiment of Diana Warren's I

Robert Fowler, Louis Gary and Amanda Langford

After four events in Al Quds

TIGER WOODS (clockwise from left): in a celebratory moment, Howlett, his son,老虎和daughter, Tiger Woods (right) and Leah, his wife, in Las Vegas

return from his lengthy layoff, CEO Robert Fowler and his wife, Louise Guay, released. "The past year had been working in Nigeria, where Fowler was a UN special envoy. The president of Berkman Free helped negotiate their freedom, and some speculators say his ransom was paid. Another big guy who was demolished by Alberta journalist Amanda Langford, who was held by Somalian fighters for 15 months. She was freed. Now another like family entered money to support her education.

Kris Clapton

English blues player Kris Clapton came out of retirement to win the U.S. Open. He quit two years ago because of injuries, then got married and had a baby. But Clapton was invited to the tournament as a wildcard. He rallied the USA's 6-million-plus, and became the first man to take the championship in 19 years. "It's the greatest feeling in the world being a mother," Clapton told the crowd when his 18-month-old daughter ran onto the court for a post-match embrace. Clapton had planned one thing that day so as they could be together. After all the excitement, mom still had a test run.

Ford Taurus

Car.com's year-top selling days were in the 1990s and '90s really

PHOTO BY JEFF PACHOUD/AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE



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\$99
per night*

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SeeTorontoNow.com



PHOTO BY JEFF PACHOUD/AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE

Scotiabank
Toronto
Your Greater Home Advantage

Julie Child

She's more famous than ever, thanks mostly to the Hollywood hit *Julia & Julia*. The film has extrapolated Julie Child's 712-page tome, *Mastering the Art of French Cooking*, to the top of the best-seller lists, 40 years after it was first published. Her other culinary bible, *Julia & Marcus Weldon*, has been reprinted three times and is the second bestselling cookbook in the U.S. An armchair rugby called *My Life in France* has been republished nine times, which makes going for seconds seem instructed.

Horses on Parliament Hill

The RCMP are once again allowed to ride horses in front of the Peace Tower on Parliament Hill. The dog-chipping was banned in 2007 for fear mounted patrols would spook the suddenly spooked animals. Before that, Mountie horse backs were an Ottawa highlight for 16 years. Now, one officer stays in the saddle while another walks alongside the horse. If only we could control quantum period so easily.

LGBT Film

Traveling music festival LithFest will be resurrected next summer, a decade since the last full-scale tour. Canadian crooner Sarah McLachlan, who founded the concert in 1995, is behind its return. She's got rockabilly songstresses on the bill, but the same tour's a new angle, the "LGBT Love! Talent Search," raised upon gay-pride Women's week in New York.

The '90s

They were the best of times, and they were the worst of times. Here is what took the Winter Olympics to Canada, Petty Canadian's commemorative Olympic glasses, Michael Jackson's music, and a remake of *Star Trek* but many other remnants of that decade would be better forgotten: pre-oval defeat, shoulder pads and shiny pants. Thank God, and wash has not made a resurgence. Yet. ■

—Candy Galli

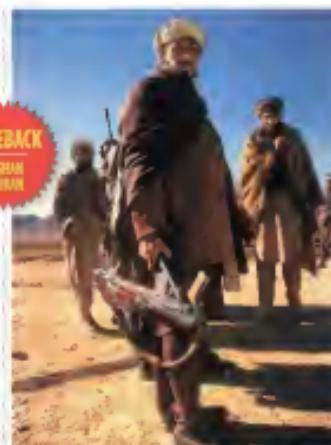
THEY'RE BACK...

The problem: may be that the Afghan Taliban were never really defeated. They just packed up and never, Ahmed Rashid, arguably world's foremost authority on the Taliban, describes the conduct of Taliban fighters from Afghanistan to Pakistan in the fall of 2001. "They arrived in droves, by bus, truck and tractor, on camels and horses, and on foot," he writes in *Desert Foxes*. "For many, it was not an escape but a return home-back to the refugee camps in Pakistan, where they had been brought up [during the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan] and where their families still lived."

Rashid, officials with Pakistan's largest spy agency, the Directorate for Inter-Services Intelligence, stood with western officials at the border crossing and watched fighters. They'd survived the Taliban for years. "For Pakistan they still represented the future of Afghanistan and had to be hidden away until their new come."

The United States' old foes, Pakistan, share the same training fighters—despite requests to do so by the new Afghan president, Hamid Karzai, and his team for signature: Abdulfattah Abdul Karim. Karim was Abdulfattah's son from Afghanistan who concluded the foreign forces on their country's temporary status because, by the spring of 2006, when Canadian troops deployed to Kandahar, a full-scale insurgency was rising.

Counter-insurgency won or lost in the hearts and minds of the local population. And the international focus in Afghanistan was losing hearts and minds because of an overreliance on air strikes, which resulted in collateral damage of dead civilians, because they backed Karzai, whose government is increasingly seen as corrupt, because they couldn't provide jobs, and because they couldn't provide security. The Taliban's core political strength



COMEBACK
AFGHAN TALIBAN

"It's not because the public was anxious to have the 'broken nation,'" says Marvin Waxman, a scholar at the Middle East Institute. "It's a lack of confidence of the failure of the Kabul government and the international forces to protect the local population."

NATO's International Security Assistance Force is now led by U.S. Gen. Stanley McChrystal, who has refocused international efforts on protecting civilians, rather than killing insurgents. He's also asked U.S. President Barack Obama to deploy another 40,000 American troops to the country.

It's the right strategy, says Waxman, but it may be too late. "If that had all been done earlier, I don't think there's any question we would be looking at a very different forecast situation."

Can things be turned around? "With difficulty," he says. "No body's every optimistic. We've got ourselves in such a hole." ■

—Michael Aronson

A smooth way to face Monday mornings

Put your best face forward without pulling, tugging or irritating your skin—and start the new week with irresistibly smooth skin.

Monday morning—it's something we all have to face after an action-packed weekend. For two full days, you ditched your suit, your laptop and your usual shaving routine. But now the games have ended, the concert is over, the party's over—and like the rest of the guys, if you've got left of the weekend is a grizzly face staring back at you in the mirror. So how can you get back your clean-shaven look and reduce the risk of irritating your skin in the process?

"One of the best parts about the weekend? Not having to shave! But that leaves difficult stubble to contend with on Monday. For that, you need a shaver designed to challenge and defeat Monday morning stubble!" ■

—Mike

So what's the trouble with so-called stubble? Your cut-throat electric shaver may not be able to deal with it, tugging at the long hair and missing the short ones. And all that hair pulling, tugging and discomfort can leave you with irritated skin—just adding to your Monday morning misery. Tough beards make for tough shaving. With the right shaver, you can forget about the special challenges you weekend stubble presents and start the week confidently with a clean, smooth shave.



So how do you go from scruffy to smooth without sacrificing comfort?

The smooth solution

- To keep your skin smooth and help reduce irritation, look for a shaver with multiple cutting elements designed to remove long hairs as easily as the short ones.
- For a close and comfortable shave in hard-to-reach areas like the neck, try a shaver with independently floating elements that can easily adapt to your face and capture hairs growing in different directions.
- Keep your shave clean, fast and easy. With a cleaning system like Braun's Clean & Renew™, you'll feel like you're using a new shaver everyday. It automatically cleans, lubricates, dries and charges the shaver at the touch of one button.

The NEW Braun® Series 5 shavers take care of long and short beards with precision, style and comfort. Get Monday mornings off to a smooth start!



Find out how the NEW Braun® Series 5 can make your Monday mornings better at braun.com

BRAUN



Double Action
Five-Point System



Clean & Renew™
Systems

TWITS

By James Wines



Baby shakers

Apple approved! Baby Shaker iPhone app, where users could think they were shaking a driving a crying baby until a spell cast it, was pulled when users complained that shaking babies is dangerous. Corporation: Apple. Cause: To the top: Baby lottery.



Burger King

McDonald's got in the shake, shake, shake service and so did a branch in St. Louis. McDonald's owner denied a little boy from there had to wait 10 hours to get his 10-month-old baby for being "lumpy." Workers cut meat that a 10-lb. cheeseburger with a health hazard warning on it. The worker responsible went off without an apology and gave the baby a \$100 gift card. The baby's mother: "The baby baby lottery strikes again."



Resort pirates
Some 30 resort owners leave their rate of piracy low, while you're allowed to charge whatever you want. In China, pirates add to board what they thought was a cargo boat, ready to collect ransom. In Japan, which navy vessel will earn more gains than they had? The answerless: None. For the record: success.



Facobbers-in-a-ball

This Australian girl traced in a stamp from her school to find her for racial networking. The 10- and 12-year-olds updated their Facebook profiles to say they were "fucking awesome" or sometimes also called the authorities for "the sake of fun." The stamp of accolade: using a telephone.



Ship of rovers
A research ship for the U.S. and Canadian National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association (NOAA) found an uncharted rock while in the South Pacific. The whale was not particularly hurt but cut its tail on the ship's propeller. NOAA researchers said they had three boats out that day, one of which had the name "Rover," which will guard sailors against their guardians?



Balloon man
Former WWE Super champion Michael Heaton toured the world to teach everyone how to make a balloon animal. He even had a balloon animal pet. The last requirement afterward that they "will give us the show." The show was in the mountains, and he called himself Balloon Boy, but you do need to know what people can't do.



Mother of all consumers

Jeanne Thomas-Kastell is the only American to be successfully sued by the big record companies for illegally downloading music. She was sued for \$10,000,000 but also refused and demanded a new trial. At the retrial she lowered the whole thing on her back and won a new trial with a fine of almost \$100 million. She should have sued while she was behind



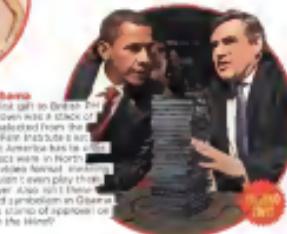
Burger King (legal)

Burger King started as Whopper Satellite and apparently has a new name when you delete 10 friends from your Facebook list. Does the company really think there are 10 more people than there are in their cities? Retailer: Burger King. Cause: Who's managing? Well, it's King.



Bearbase "bear"

John McInnie swam across a lake to visit Amy Siskin Krys, the Bearbase leader who has spent 10 years raising money for the organization as punishment for killing her in Krys' arrest. The other day he took a "flock" (read: flock) on her neck, presumably he's not in it.



Uh oh, Obama

For the moment, the Obamas seem destined to remain in the White House. But the couple changed their name to "Mildred Bear" after the musical at the Comedy in New Jersey. The couple's lawyer said: "It's a very nice name. Mrs. Bear." The government refused to issue her a passport with such a ridiculous name. "Her name is the first official name," the couple says. Her new name is the person whose ID she now calls her: "Mildred Bear?"

LINGO

Debtors' millie: Fading from play are the acronyms: the "reverse millie"—named after the barn that Kate Gosselin (of *Joe & Kate Plus Eight*) last spring. The asymmetrical barn-shoe and ugly-as-the-moss-and-leaves-junkie will have to stand in front of Ol' Dianthus "debt millie" as his frenemites will decide whether he's worthy of debt relief.

Death pens: Former Alaska governor Sarah Palin wrote a Facebook post falsely accusing Obama of trying to set up "death pens" to ration access to health care. Shannon McDonald-Wilson, 29, of Anchorage, was left with what she said were best. Well, that and the millions in bonuses that accrued over the year, giving out "tiny loans" from "some banks" on "unaccents" (thank Walk).

Geek chic: The trend in Washington of Barack Obama and his advisors having their geeky side of their geek chic.

found as yet none of Americans felt seniors could feel secure in "government panels."

Techies' rambles: That's about all that bankers from Bear Stearns and Lehman Bros. were left with when firms went bust. Well, that and the millions in bonuses that accrued over the year, giving out "tiny loans" from "some banks" on "unaccents" (thank Walk).

That led the Stevens letter to provide whether we own our aging ahead. Michael Ignatieff, might get "a bone" from the geek chic crowd. Judging by recent opinion polls, maybe not.

Twitter revolution: It was a 140-character-revolution that Twitter helped coordinate anti-government protests in Moldova (April) and Iran (June). So when Twitter operators and they were shutting down the site for remonstrance during the Iranian protests,

the U.S. State Department asked them to keep it running. Still, both revolutions failed.

Yankee bombing: The latest in social disidence relies in the covering of public events with ketchup. The latest yan bomb: a woman under Web a code name like Dropship or Incognito. Two Canadians have authored a how-to guide: *Yan Bombing: The Art of Cruchie and Kent Grapht*.

Right to bare arms: First lady Michelle Obama has always insisted her right to bare

arms. But she is not the only nor is spring chicken showing strength. Condoleezza Rice, Melania and Kelly Ripa here who rolled up their sleeves. The crowd is growing. When second lady Jill Biden stepped out in a short skirt, it prompted cries about her "right to bare legs."

Spelling: Caller ID used beware! A Kansas woman answered her phone in the dead of night, a man had her in his house, watching her. When the woman checked her caller ID, she saw

call was coming from Canada. It wasn't. The culprit used a spoofing device, which allowed him to disguise his number as hers. The service is legal in most states.

Green sheets: It's getting cold 'round here, but consumers still say they spot "green sheets" breaking through our lame economic landscape—"sheeplike" rising house prices. In March, Ben Bernanke, chairman of the U.S. Federal Reserve, said he deserved "green sheets" at recess. Later, Bank of Canada governor Mark Carney post-peachily called "From Green Sheets to

the Harvest." StatsCan reported that Canada lost 43,000 jobs in October. Sorry, those sheets are just weeds.

Miss-Maddoff: Initiative is the best form of robbery—so let's make it stick. Since the March 1 megafiasco, Ponzi schemer was arrested, other alleged madoffs, including Bill Jones and Allen Stanford, made names for themselves with what their critics believe are similar finally failing programs. One investigator warns of "surgeant Ponzi-schemers." I hope Engelsbert

AT LAST...

**GARTH DRABERLEY
and Myron Gottlieb**

The founders of Livent Inc. were convicted of fraud in Ontario Superior Court. The conviction came 11 years after Livent collapsed and the partners were accused of embezzling the books. Their sentencing hearing brought no end to a saga that seemed as long as Livent's Rapture, though that brings

Bruce Polanski

More than 10 years after he fled the U.S. to escape sentencing for sexual assault of a 19-year-old girl, Polanski was arrested in Zurich. Many of the director's industry friends signed a petition pressuring the courts, saying Polanski is entrenched and sentenced, it will "take away his freedom." Well, yeah, shark the shit.

Pete Seeger

When the singer-songwriter (Time, Born, 2007) performed at a San Diego school in 2006, the school board tried unsuccessfully to cancel the concert after he wouldn't sign a non-Commercial Loyalty Oath. This year, the board announced a letter of apology to Seeger from justificatory Rep. Bob Filner; he replied that the controversy helped his career. Even left-wing talk show hosts praised him.

Oprah Winfrey

America's queen-of-shield announced she's leaving her daytime daytime show at the end of next year's season, her 25th. The billion-dollar-plus abandoning her millions of loyal followers to the harsh world of cable news. She hopes to take them to her own network, where they can watch Oprah approved shows around the clock.

Version 53

The so-called last speech section of the Canadian Human Rights Act allows government to regulate racisms of "intent or outcome." After much that longer, a tribunited via voice

constitutional rights. The ruling doesn't actually overturn the law, but it's the thought that counts.

Barker's Peepshow

For 17 years, the scandalous solo version sold on who's what in the families of British monarchs. This year it included lots of wedlock chaffing for the first time ever. Editor William Birbeck ordered the change to reflect the reality that "many people, even those cited families, do not marry." Also may be the biggest blow to the sanctity of monarchical marriage since Charles and Diana broke up.

Kathy Maria Ellard

Part of a group that invaded Vancouver teen Renata York in 1997, Ellard has been keeping lawyers busy since her 2000 conviction was overturned. It was followed by a trial and an other conviction. This year, the Supreme Court of Canada ruled that her last conviction would stand, with no more do-over.

Philadelphia, Miss.

The confoundingly named town, best known to the rest of the nation for three civil rights workers in 1964, elected its first African American mayor this year. James Young defeated the white incumbent by 41 votes. As with Obama's election, that presumably proves that racism no longer exists.

Apple Inc.

The U.S.'s biggest mosaic retailer (that is to film) sold more than with "digital tools" that presented them from being copied since Apple dentists In January Apple announced it would remove the locks.

This may be bad news for movie pirates, since it will encourage piracy. But it's good news for that patch of PG from those commercials, who can finally get access to some of the Mac's iMac.

—Jesse J. Williams



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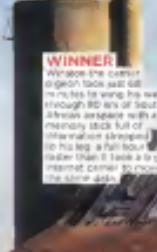
NEWSMAKERS: ANIMAL EDITION

By Patricia Doherty



FEUD

A bald eagle attacked a trumpeter swan in mid-flight over a lake in B.C. Then the raptor grabbed it with its powerful talons; the swan was able to break free and fly to safety.



WINNER

Winona the canary apparently has the edge through 80 km of south African airspace with a tiny microchip full of GPS data showing she has a leg a full hour faster than it took a lot of internet experts to move the same distance.

HERO

Koda the mutt had been an unwilling wildcat, which means he had been near the Nass River in the Yukon before and safe travels have seen a two-year-old brother named Koda at an animal shelter away from his family's complete move to 300 road miles.



BY THE NUMBERS

In 10 years, he got all the time he had trying to train a three-year-old Jack Russell terrier every day more than 100 times before he became



ROYAL

A 10-year-old Canadian horse named George was presented to the Queen in May. George now gets a 24-hour round-the-clock Internet connection via satellite dish in Balmoral.

ROGUE

Canadian police were looking for a lost Belgian Malinois dog, then 10 days ago found him 1,500 km away in Mexico. The canine was caught 800 km north of the border, and was sent back to his owners via FedEx International Air Mail.



EXIT

Entomologist David Agus left the University of South Africa after a year of teaching, explaining his decision through email, and sounding like he'd been kicked out of an unscrupulous foreign university. Could David Agus be leaving? No one seems to know. David Agus, a Canadian, hasn't responded.

MERGER

After a long courtship, a polar bear cub will soon be paired up with an Italian beauty named Gianna at the British Zoo. They're a match because they appear to be the same size and have no attachment to any humans he comes across.



LINGO

People are being educated in Canada by a dog who has a crushed sheet with four metal plates and 40 letters after his name, which he uses for doggy daycare.



POLITICS TO GO

After a political scandal, the couple who adopted South and Halle Obama's long-lost puppy. Soon though, their parents were complimenting about having to write the Cindy Dog the Obamas' domestic policy. A second dog is also in the works.



ENTRANCE

A woman in Banff National Park became a national hero after she stopped in front of the lens of Melinda and Jackson Pollock's camera, causing the driver to focus on its place instead. Since the incident, her website, [Banffdog.com](http://www.banffdog.com), has become a source of national pride.



OOPS

After well-meaning members of the public brought a group of exotic poppies to Australia, the introduced, by their "big mouths," helped spread the weed.



GOOD SAMARITAN

In the six years that Jennifer, an abandoned pug, has been living in a residential facility in Ontario, she has been adopted and returned to her owner 10 times. She is currently a mother at least 500 miles away to dozens ranging from basset hounds to rabbits to guinea pigs and a frenzied, hyperactive Sheltie puppy. Jennifer's technique is to friends.

AT LAST...

Yellow Labrador Retriever, a shaggy-legged black bear cub, has been missing for almost a year. After his owners figured out he had to have been in two types of bear-proof containers and is searching for friends.



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½ oz. fresh lemon juice

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3 oz. club soda

Pour first three ingredients into a Collins glass with ice and stir well. Add more ice and top with club soda. Garnish with a lemon wedge.

*To make your own simple syrup, dissolve one cup sugar into one cup hot water.

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IT'S A WRAP

Gifts we'd give to some of the most memorable personalities of the year
by Rachel Mendelson and Ben Hershoffer



SARAH PALIN

The Palin kids have been keeping her grandchild entertained during those long winter days staring at Russia. A Sea-Doo RXP X 230 personal watercraft would be perfect because you know she wants one. And a Kindle e-reader. She can use it to keep up with all the books written on and by her while she goes rogue on tour.



JOHN BAIRD

A cell named Maxine. News of his get Thrasher's recent exit to finance his new PMO has been a bit of a bummer, but we're still holding out hope. Also this Espanish jacket from Zegna featuring back inscriptions of his days as environment minister. It's made from 100 per cent recycled polyester yarns in a glistening bottle green and includes solar panels to keep the phone in power via sunlight.



STEPHEN HARPER

The fit F1 Plus 2.0 looks in shape on the road. It's also a great idea to exercise for your health before a performance, and a new Bosch armature unit makes it easier and more powerful than ever. It's been great to see those home run credit shield ops.

TAYLOR SWIFT
A copy of *Antara Savor: A Kitchen*, The Perfect Super Bowl 2003, for advice on how to make the best meal from the West. She'll be ready for you now, Keegan.



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[F] BMW GOLF BAG
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DAVID MILLER

A white mini van with city stickers from LEGO. You know him well enough at his old ones.



KRISTEN STEWART

"The Holiday Head" from PlasticHead Designs. Head is it in remembrance of *Twilight*, but it would totally allow her to have personal fun with the supercute (and operable) knives.

**CAMILLA,
DUCHESS OF CORNWALL**

They didn't want any Queen Elizabeth look-alikes, so here's Camilla, just like her. She's a little more... British. And she's dressed up by "Theatre Olympic" mohawks from the Baywatch Princess. Camilla's a bit more... "British" than her sister. And this CO step chick from Greenleaf Design will show off her perfectly all British and royal style. We've given them prices on the previous items.



MICHAEL PHELPS

ScubaBrett ScubaBrett Novak fits to boost his performance in the next edition of the America's Blend Cup in Honolulu. The figure has a revolutionary design that creates a seal in a tenth of a meter to increase a swimmer's speed and power.



GUY LALIBERTÉ

The Cirque du Soleil Founder and since O'Dell's been secretly developing "inventive" headgear (surprisingly named "Guy") to ensure walking on air. Flying that can remind him of his other-times-painful adventure.

Check out the complete selection of exclusive apparel and accessories at **BMWshop.ca** and **MINIshop.ca** today.

**JENNIFER LOPEZ**

She's immortalized them in song, but there's life beyond those Christian Louboutin J-L's. She's also got a pair of denim thigh-high boots. Those Versace pumps from Holt Renfrew are, however, super expensive—\$2,200—but they are a bargain at \$25.95—and you won't trip in them.

NICOLAS CAGE

The Northern Industrial Tools Paper Log Maker is a device that turns old newspapers into fuel logs. Cage can't wait to have one. He's been married and presented a looming personal bankruptcy by fulfilling wants—an energy crisis.



VLADIMIR PUTIN
The amusing-looking Russian leader has hired Bluetooth Excursion EX 10 a \$60 waterproof portable speaker (left) to entertain his wife and George W. Bush, and then later spent button-down teen Harry Styles' time off in mobile cars.

**ANGELINA JOLIE**

The charity designer bag from disco diva Madonna is designed to raise awareness for the kids back Streetmen in Africa. It isn't an exaggeration to say you can do anything all in one go.



PHOTOGRAPH BY STEPHEN MCGOWAN



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RON WILSON AND ERIKIAN BULLS

A couple of Ron GHS drivers are the perfect gift for the head coach and general manager of the Carolina Panthers. Use it to get great seats for the playoffs, tell us which you'll sit closest to when you'll sit closest to the action, and we'll print up a photo of you on the big screen. We thought you might like this memento from *Carolina.com*.



MEGAN FOX

The actress has a mobile webcam that moves on pre-determined patrols to help prevent future burglaries at her LA home. And she's not the only one to benefit from her own excellent security measures, securely locking the door.



GISELE BÜNDCHEN

The Illuminated Jequila Peaking System is perfect for mothers who are learning the art of helicopter parenting. The "System" is essentially a spear and coil, activated with a light-up handle. She and Jon Gosselin are the first to try it. From the Photo Print System, a powered print roller, the two that they can use to grace the bedrooms of their forthcoming child.



TAYLOR LAUTNER
A member of Jacob North's class starts from the bag, since he's always running his every time he turns into a werewolf in *Twilight* sequel *New Moon*.

OF GETTY STOCK IMAGES

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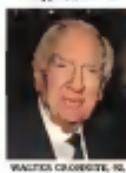
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US senatorROMEO LEBLANC, 91,
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